

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

China Overland Trade Report.

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CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Epitome	461
Leading Articles:—	
Education in Hongkong	462
Inexact Terminology	462
The Triplice	463
On Experts	463
The Nanchang Affair	464
Hongkong Legislative Council	464
Hongkong Sanitary Board	464
Supreme Court	468
Canton	470
The Hang-fire Railway	471
Correspondence	471
Hongkong's Tumbledown Houses	471
Education in Hongkong	471
Empress Dowager's Rescript	471
Chino-American Trade	471
Chinese Penal Code	472
Japanese Finances	472
Dastardly Affair in Hongkong	472
Japanese Foreign Trade	473
Review	473
Foreign Masters and Japanese Ships	473
Commercial	474
Shipping	476

BIRTH.

On June 20th, at Hongkong, the wife of FREDERICK SOUTHEY, A.M.I.C.E., of a son.

DEATHS.

On June 17th, at Shanghai, BESSIE NAFTALY, wife of H. A. NAFTALY, aged 24 years.

On June 23rd, at Shanghai, Captain JOHN P. ROBERTS, aged 77 years.

Hongkong Weekly Press

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ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The French Mail of May 25th arrived, per the ss. *Tenkin*, on Wednesday, the 27th instant, and the English Mail of June 1st arrived, per the ss. *Devanha*, on Friday, the 29th instant.

FAR EASTERN NEWS.

A ten mile strip of the Swatow-Chaochow line is finished.

Rice riots are reported in Anhwei. Shops were looted and the yamen attacked.

Some of the coolies employed by the Shanghai Municipal Council are on strike for higher pay.

The Kiaochoo-Chinanfu railway paid a three and one quarter per cent. dividend for the year 1905.

The French gunboat *Décidée*, reported badly stranded in Poyang Lake, has been refloated without assistance.

The Hotel des Colonies at Shanghai, with a capital of Tls. 225,000 in nine thousand shares, is calling a meeting with a view to reducing the capital.

The Governor-General of Indo-China has issued an order for the establishment of a university at Hanoi.

The British Cigarette Company of Shanghai is gradually driving Japanese cigarettes out of the market in Manchuria and Corea.

Viceroy Chou Fu is supposed to have got into trouble for criticising Viceroy Shun. It is said that H.E. Chang Chih-tung will displace him.

Native papers announce that the French Minister and the Chinese deputies signed an agreement on June 20th relating to the Nanchang affair.

The new French Minister and the Chinese Foreign Office are busy drafting new regulations for the control of Catholic missionaries. International regulations might be better.

A report has reached Seoul to the effect that a Korean fishing-boat struck and exploded a drifting mine off Oyuta. Three out of the four men in the boat were killed or drowned.

The Court at Peking is abasing itself, and ordering all officials to do likewise, in order to placate the god who sends rain. The prolonged drought is causing grave troubles in the north.

A Japanese committee appointed to study cotton culture in Corea estimates that an annual crop worth eight million sterling, or more than two thirds the value of Japan's present imports, could be produced in the peninsula.

The French Minister has announced that he will discuss the framing of new regulations to govern Roman Catholic missionaries when all the foreign Powers have agreed to do the same with regard to Christian missions, both Protestant and Roman Catholic.

Ought Sir Wilfrid Lawson to be sent to Shanghai as a missionary? The question is suggested by the cold-blooded way in which the *N.C. Daily News*, reporting a fire that broke out at 3.15 p.m., mentions the fact that "the firemen reeled up about 4.15 p.m."

According to a Tokyo report, plans are being formed to place the war strength of the Japanese army at one million men. This is said to be due not only to the lessons of the Russo-Japanese war but also in accordance with the requirements of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance.

At the offices of the P.W.D. on June 26th the letting by public auction sale of Garden Lot No. 28, situated on Barker Road, took place. The lot contains 6,800 square feet, and has an annual rental of \$16. It was sold to Mr. C. L. Gorham for \$360, being \$20 above the upset price. There was no competition.

The body of a European sailor was found floating in the harbour near the Canton Wharf on June 24th. He was a man apparently of 45 years of age, 5 ft. 7 inches in height and was dressed in dark jacket and trousers. In his pocket was found a flat bottle, from which the cork had been taken out. He was subsequently identified as Samuel Pearce of the s.s. *Anglo-Canadian*.

The *Japan Chronicle* learns from a vernacular contemporary that a new agreement has been concluded between the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and the Great Northern Steamship Company. The agreement is binding for ten years, and differs in no material point from the previous contract. It was concluded at St. Paul between Mr. Hill, President of the G.N. Company, and Mr. Yatsui, representative of Mr. Kondo, President of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

A Chinese girl, aged 19 years, from Ship Street, committed suicide on the 24th June. She was seen by some of her friends to leap from a wooden wharf in Praya East into the harbour, and though the alarm was given she could not be reached. Her body has not been recovered yet. It is thought that the provocative trouble was debt.

There was something very interesting in the sight of a European policeman capturing a run away pony while the mafoo climbed a tree and watched the proceedings from a place of safety. The other morning a pony attached to a gharry was so startled when the shafts broke that he immediately bolted. After travelling some distance it was caught by a European policeman and brought along to West Point Police Station. There it broke away again but was quickly captured by another European. While the animal was kicking and lashing out the mafoo, who had followed, climbed a tree to obtain safety, and was afterwards discovered calmly viewing the situation.

That a man should jump from a verandah to the ground below and be able to pick himself up and run from the police is a rather uncommon occurrence. This, however, was an incident in an opium raid on June 24th. The suspected party, who is an old offender, on learning that the police were in the house, jumped from the verandah and ran off. He was captured a little later and taken to the Police Station, where he complained of pains in the back. Accordingly he was taken to the hospital, but was sent back as a malingerer. He continued, however, to complain of pains, and the Magistrate decided to remand him till the 29th inst. for medical observation. The suspicion of malingering hardly seems reasonable in the circumstances.

A curious case of a freak of nature is reported in the vernacular papers, says the *Japan Herald*. A two-month-old child of Mr. Idzumii Yoshiji of Daitomura, Yoshino district, in Yamato province, has since birth been suffering from a swelling just under the left eye. The child was admitted to the Osaka Hospital on May 26th for treatment. Two days later, when an operation was performed, a diminutive human being, perfect in all parts, was taken from the swelling. The report adds that the doctors are of opinion that this was a case of twins, and that one of the two developed imperfectly under the skin of the other. It should be added that the native Japanese journals are quite able to cope with scarcity of news.

A soldier of the Baluchi Regiment prosecuted a Chinaman for the theft of \$45. It appears that one day last week the Baluchi came to Hongkong with \$45 in his pocket. He changed a five dollar bill into small money at a money-changer's and wrapped the silver with the notes in a handkerchief which he placed in his breast pocket. The Chinaman jostled him and one made off with the handkerchief containing the money. The Baluchi gave chase and captured the thief, who in the meantime had passed the money on to a confederate. Determined to escape at all costs, the Chinaman pulled a knife from his pocket and cut his queue, leaving it in the hands of his captor. Again the Baluchi followed him till the thief ran up an entry. Here the soldier kept guard until the arrival of the police, who ultimately secured the thief. He was sentenced to three weeks' hard labour and six hours in the stocks.

EDUCATION IN HONGKONG.

(Daily Press, 25th June)

It will not be easy, except for those who take a special interest in the subject, to sift from the mass of detail in the annual report of the INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS a sufficiently clear "bird's-eye view". That a hundred and fifty-nine thousand dollars was spent in 1905 on the education of Hongkong youth, in 83 schools, and that the average attendance at these schools increased considerably, are facts worth noting; but the utilitarian-minded reader will want to know more. That upper grade schools attract more scholars than lower grade schools sounds well, as also that some of the private schools are turning to "the new method", whatever that may be, as against "the time-honoured classical education". The net cost of pupils in Government Schools was a little over forty-six dollars per head, as against forty-one in 1904; but that is based on expenditure on new plant, and is a quite useless calculation. Much similar detail has to be skimmed before we come to the important statement that the shifting nature of the population makes a fixed course of instruction difficult. That is a pity, and seems to point to the need of making certain that the curriculum includes no merely ornamental subjects. Without saying anything unpalatable about the matter memorised as per the Rev. C. H. HICKLING's report from the Kowloon British School, or the still more important subject dealt with by Mr. FULLER, F.R.C.O., L.R.A.M., we may quote the official note that "there seems some danger that competitions such as those for the Bellios Medal and for the prize for Scottish History may disorganize the routine school work". That is worth pondering over; and the authorities might be well advised to consider the matter of putting the children's limited time to its fullest practical use.

It is interesting to see that Chinese parents are becoming more inclined to give their daughters English education, and that they were also not averse to paying for it. But we can hardly admit that the INSPECTOR chose well his word when he wrote that the imposition of a monthly fee of twenty-five cents was a severe test of the interest of parents in their daughter's education. However, if there were people who previously asserted that "selfishness and benightedness of the Chinese" would make them balk at even that we are glad to see them confuted. Mr. MORRIS is one of the masters who has hit upon a most agreeable method of imparting instruction, taking parties of boys to inspect manufactories and public works. Such expeditions may not directly "prove of a high educational value", but they should awaken a healthy curiosity in the minds of the boys. A boy who has had his inquisitive brain directed to some useful practical invention is in a better way to become a useful citizen than the poor wight who pleases the Rev. Mr. HICKLING by memorising two long Oriental poems. The peculiar needs of the Colony ought to be constantly borne in mind in the training of its young people. A capital step in this direction was the GOVERNOR's introduction of hygiene as a subject; but we fear its object is being defeated either by too much technicality or lack of tutorial enthusiasm. The simple principles of hygiene, thoroughly inculcated, should have far-reaching effects upon the lives of future generations; and certainly do more immediate good than the bending of little falsetto voices to tonic sol-fa harmony. But at Hongkong the faults frequently the subject of complaint in England are noticeable. Too much is

sought to be crammed, and when curtailment becomes inevitable, some useful subject is dropped and a less useful retained simply because it is "old custom". Thus French may be dropped, and Scripture held. Moreover, "time is wasted by learning statistics which are of little educational value, e.g., the population of towns". We welcome this dawn of commonsense in official reports by School Inspectors, and trust that when found it will be made note of. But we delved the quotation from a report on a girls' school, and we find that the INSPECTOR still holds it necessary to the training of housewives and mothers that they should be able to make sketch-maps which distinguish the important cities by classifying marks showing them "as under and over 100,000 and 1,000,000". In history we regret to note that the same girls show a tendency to give information that is not asked for. That is quite feminine, and we dare not say it is far wide of the practice of many historians. The Chinese pupil who concluded that by cooking millions of germs in our food we can escape from disease suggests metaphorically a needful educational remedy. The system is infected by germs, sequeious germs, bad habits and traditional mistakes. A little boiling, such as is now going on in Europe, might make it healthier.

INEXACT TERMINOLOGY.

(Daily Press, 26th June.)

A member of the China Inland Mission, the Rev. D. W. CROFTS, whose address is Chenyuan via Yochow, has written to the *North-China Daily News* a letter containing grave charges against the officials of the syndicate constructing the Yunnan railway. Bands of Chinese labourers, "big, strong, rawboned countrymen from the neighbourhood of Tientsin", called at his house, and from their stories he has acquired an idea of what he calls "the plainly murderous exploitation of labourers by the syndicate". The coolies told him they were engaged to work on the line for a dollar a day, their passage being paid to Haiphong. They did not like their new surroundings, "desolate high mountains", and they had to make huts for themselves by gathering "grass and brushwood" from the mountain sides. They received no wages, but rice was doled to them daily "at famine prices". Only one catty a day was their last allowance, and no vegetables, meat, salt, or oil were furnished, so Mr. CROFTS says. Each man had to gather his own fuel. They endured this state of things for two months, and then asked for their wages. Being refused they began to desert. At least some of them did; some could not, as according to the missionary's story, "insufficient food, strange climate, and poisonous gases (especially in tunnels where men were driven to work by armed guards) ended many lives in agony". There were also other deserters who had actually worked for ten or eleven months, "and been told that if they would work till the job was completed, about five years, they would receive their wages in full". The most that any had received in ready money was "one or two dollars". A later gang, recruited from the Shanghai and Ningpo neighbourhood, was also deserting in groups, "sometimes more than one hundred per day kneeling at our door and asking help." "As soon as they went to work they began to sicken and die, so the foremen turned them adrift to get home as they could". As late as May 15th, Mr. CROFTS could write, "The stronger of these refugees have now passed us and the poor crawling, staggering

rearguard are upon us. They can scarcely rise after sitting down at our door to beg, and they have still fifteen hundred miles to go". Briefly, that is the terrible story unfolded. It is the only evidence we have so far, and whether we accept, deny, or minimise the charges, we have to depend upon this narrative of Mr. CROFTS until we hear from Yunnan. We may say at once that our feeling is against accepting such a story. We have no hesitation in believing that the missionary was imposed upon by beggars; and but little in suggesting that his feelings of humanity have run away with his pen, causing his phraseology to take on an exaggerated tone. We have had such a recent lesson in the misrepresentations of the coolie's lot in South Africa that it is only sensible, to say nothing of fair, to hesitate about swallowing entire these allegations of inhumanity and worse. The reverend raconteur admits that the stories struck him as incredible at first, but says conviction came with "many repetitions, almost verbatim". That peculiarity of the trumped-up story would have made some men still more incredulous. Take the complaint that no money was paid to the men, in conjunction with the description of their desolate, mountainous surroundings, and then consider what could be their hurry. Good reasons at once suggest themselves for the deferred payment. The remark that rice was charged for "at famine prices" has a touch of hyperbole about it, though it might well be true, as recent market prices have been quoted on a famine basis. That "many lives ended in agony" before the expiry of the first two months is a manifest expansion of truth, and in the letter itself we read of others who survived these unbelittled hardships for nearly a year before it occurred to them to run away. It is included as part of the indictment that while "begging their way towards home, many fell victims to disease, want, and weather", and this alone should upset the obvious inference of the statement that the men as seen by the complainant were in a state of exhaustion. A Sanitary Board coolie absconding from Hongkong to Peking might truthfully be described as in a sorry state at Shanghai, without reflecting upon the local corporation. As for the hundred applicants per day, kneeling at the missionary's door, they seem to have struck a charitable gold-mine; and if the reverend gentleman sets a watch, one suspect he will find that many of them are making the circuit of his compound, and re-appearing in the procession more exhausted than before. In any case, these very serious charges are made on hear-say evidence of the most notoriously untrustworthy character; nothing personally observed by the writer can be fairly set down as the effect of the alleged causes; and we fear that we have here another case of possible mischief to be worked by the too much complacency with which some missionaries are ready to listen to evil tales and to pass them on. Taking his own testimony, as presented in the letter quoted, no judge could accept the evidence as sufficient to warrant the Rev. D. W. CROFTS' conclusion that these coolies were "poor, unfortunate, victimised men". We do not suppose that the matter will be permitted to rest where it does.

The directors of the Weishiwei Gold Mining Co., Ltd., expected that the concentrates shipped to San Francisco would realise about sixty-five gold dollars per ton, the valuation of their own assayer. They have received a telegram to the effect that the yield was only \$2.47 gold for fifty-eight tons.

THE TRIPLICE.

(Daily Press, 27th June.)

There is a not unnatural feeling that the occasion for the Triple Alliance has passed, and that the Alliance is under present circumstances rather an anachronism. Once upon a time the military power of Russia loomed upon the eastern horizon of Europe as a very real terror. In 1849, Austria, whether she desired it or not, was driven by the armed force of Russia into a reactionary policy, from which with difficulty she emerged in 1860; but ever since the impending force of her gigantic neighbour has been felt as a benumbing check on her own internal progress. Italy, though further removed from the direct pressure, could not but feel that the danger impending over her near neighbours might any day, in the event of their being forced to give way, react on herself, and had therefore the strongest grounds for lending her back to the resisting structure. Under existing circumstances it cannot be said that the militarism of Russia materially troubles the central and southern Power, who are much more concerned in her recent political developments. The EMPEROR of Germany, accustomed all his life to think in battalions finds some difficulty in understanding this protean position, yet there is no doubt that in Vienna and Budapesth, as well as in Rome, the political aspect of affairs in Russia is really the cause of great anxiety. All would be pleased did the result of the present troubles prove to be some form of modified rule which might prove satisfactory to people and Crown; but this they fear is now impracticable. On the other hand the success of the revolutionists, and its too probable sequence, the horrors of a *Jaquerie* cannot be looked on with indifference. Neither, both feel, can the return to power of the reactionary bureaucracy, and a recapitulation of the massacres and iniquities of the past ten years, be viewed with feelings other than those of apprehension. Even in social life it is not pleasant, and is sometimes dangerous to have for next door neighbours a household engaged in perpetual discords; in political households the danger is the worst and most obvious of the drawbacks of an ill-regulated household. Now both Austro-Hungary and Italy have reason from their avowed opinions on divine right to fear that in these things the German EMPEROR's point of view does not quite coincide with their own. Besides, from a practical point of view, where is the present need of emphasising the Triple Alliance? It had its uses, and they were consistent in their support; but if not against Russia what is its utility? Neither have anything to urge against the Western Powers: France and Spain certainly have no ambitious projects likely to interfere with the development of either Austro-Hungary or Italy; and if Great Britain, the only Power with whom they are likely to come in contact, be content, it is difficult to see why the other two should take exception. All these are reasons, not for abolishing the Alliance, but for not seeking to emphasise its continuance. The Alliance has done good work for Europe at large when it was content with appearing as simply defensive; but it is not the work of a statesman of the first rank to cast discredit on this feature of its existence, and by undue protestation seek to make it assume what savours of the offensive. This, and not any desire to withdraw from the old and well tried understanding, is evidently the reason why the two other Powers have seemingly required to be urged to keep up the show of the old bond of union. Some

people pray daily for the good estate of the Church Militant, but it is in its sempiternal strife with the powers of darkness. The ill-effects of turning its militancy in other directions could not be better displayed than in the unseemly strife raging about the new Education Act in England. Europe surely does not need such another quarrel to centre about the eminently peace assuring Triple Alliance.

Unfortunately nations as individuals are ever prone to let their momentary sensations usurp the place of reason. In this very affair of Russia we see something of the result. Three months ago, persuaded by the good words of France, the British came forward to assist the financial necessities of Russia; the reason why they interested themselves in this affair, against their ordinary practice, was evidently a passing fit of benevolence. Serious men are not generally presumed to let their impulses get the better of their judgment, yet in this instance the whole nation coincided in the action. Russian finances are to-day neither better nor worse than they were six months ago, yet the very people who three months before were all for giving, at the moment are loud in their outcry against any dealings whatever with Russia; the reason assigned being that Russia has in cold blood murdered a few Jews. Now we do not desire to be supposed in the slightest degree to minimise the enormity of the deed, but to point out that Jew-baiting and Jew murder are normal in Russia; and we were not many months prior to this last exhibition of savagery made unpleasantly aware of the fact. In the face of all this there were sentimentalists in Great Britain quite ready to enter into an alliance which at any moment threatened to make them accessories before the fact of similar wholesale massacres. Now that Russia has again shown them a little bit of her natural disposition, they seek ostrich-like to cover their heads, thinking doubtless that that will conceal them from the jibes of their fellowmen, yet it is quite likely that had it not been for the very substantial monetary aid that in a fit of misplaced sentimentality they handed to Russia, the Government of that country would not have found itself in a position to repeat its former crime.

The reasonable conclusion to be drawn from all this is that Europe practically has the whole thing in her hands. If she be sensible enough to keep the money in her own pockets, there is little occasion for Triple Alliances or anything else. Russia left to herself will sufficiently early perform the feat of getting rid of herself. The KAISER has only to see that his subjects button up their breeches pockets, and will soon discover a more effectual way of curbing his neighbour's misdeeds than all the efforts of the Alliance.

ON EXPERTS.

(Daily Press, 28th June.)

The phrase "expert evidence" contains within itself a suggestion of more than ordinary value. When we are asked to hearken to the testimony of an expert, we are fain to comply with a respect a little more pronounced than that with which we ordinarily listen to a mere layman. And having heard, we have to be very bold men indeed to presume offhand to combat the statements made. It is true that within late years the race of experts of all kinds has multiplied, and it is perhaps the case that familiarity has bred in us something that savours less of the awe and reverence

of former days. There have even been temerarious fellows who have quoted experts with an air of ribaldry, but these belonged to the low professional humourist class, like Mr. DOOLEY, for instance, who actually jeered at the evidence of expert analysts in a New York poisoning case. Such examples are not for us to follow, in any comments we may feel obliged to make on expert testimony given in Hongkong. The recent example of the CHIEF JUSTICE, however, who, armed only with native commonsense and about twelve months' experience of Hongkong, was able to discount the evidence of a Chinese expert on Chinese writing, emboldens us to take up a more independent attitude towards all experts than we should otherwise have presumed to do. Not, perhaps, towards that particular Chinese expert, because we have gleaned sufficient about the complexities of Chinese calligraphy to make us hesitate. On the one point which his LORDSHIP pointed out was especially worthy of the expert's attention, for instance, we should be at a loss what view to take. The learned JUDGE remarked with obvious justice that there is no telling what will result from the application of a "pen" the ink of which is at the point of being expended. [We paraphrase rather than quote, in order to avoid seeming to quibble with the phrase "a dry pen", which means, of course, a pen or brush that is nearly dry.] For while his LORDSHIP doubted whether a writing instrument in such exhausted condition would "correctly produce in the way of loops and flourishes all that is required of it", we understand that this is precisely the feat which all the Chinese calligraphists who affect style at all do most assiduously essay. What they call the "style of force", or strong style of penmanship, demands that as much as possible be written with one "dip" of ink, and the fainter, more "spidery", often "split" flourishes that terminate characters, and phrases in the running hand, made with the now almost dry pen, are regarded as the beautiful and wholly satisfactory evidences of high æsthetic endeavour. A glance at any specimen of admittedly good Chinese writing will explain this better than columns of verbal description. As we have already said, however, and repeat even in face of the digression to which we have been tempted, these matters are too deep to warrant our immediate adoption, *vis à vis* experts, of the bolder attitude we expressed our intention to take. We prefer to flesh our maiden rashness on the expert testimony given at the last meeting of the Sanitary Board. When Mr. HENRY HUMPHREYS suggested interrogatively that "size", the viscous substance used by painters and paper-hangers, was a possible culture for bacilli, we thought it a very good point to make. The expert answer was a bare negative, however; and the impression given was that the plaguey bits of protoplasm could not exist in that familiar medium. It occurs to us, however, that if Mr. HUMPHREYS had worded his question differently, the reply might have been less decisive. He asked if "size" were not "one of the finest" cultures, and on reflection, we could have said "no" to that ourselves, since "size" is only "analogous" to gelatine. He might profitably put his question again, in this form, Is "size" in any degree hospitable to germs? Then, if he gets another negative, we will throw discretion to the winds and assail expertism in its own lair. These germs, spores, diatoms, bacilli, or whatever they be called (for such small people they have a big endowment of nomenclature) are supposed to

very short-lived. We have been told (by an expert) that a smallpox germ will die in the course of a forty yards' voyage through fresh air, unless it encounters some floating particle that acts the part of wreckage to a drowning sailor; and the raft of wreckage must have provisions aboard, else the micro-organism wilts and withers to its doom. So we are told by the Sanitary Board President, quoting other experts, that the plague microbe is a feeble creature when deprived of his prey. His viability, or capacity for existing, will not endure more than seven days of starvation fare on wall or ceiling, even in temperate climes. In the tropics it is much less, or expertly snid to be. We assume, therefore, that in most cases here, his demise has taken place before the Sanitary Board's coolies have ripped down the ceilings and needlessly annoyed both landlord and tenant! We hope we do not here argue sinistrously, but is not this a point worth seizing by Mr. HENRY HUMPHREYS or Mr. SHELTON HOOPER? The experts have told them that the plague bacillus must have human beings, rats, or insects for lodgement, failing a tin of scientifically cooked gelatine. On wall or ceiling imminent death awaits him, of sheer inanition. Then why make such a wreck of house interiors under course of disinfection? Why pull down ceilings? These are the next questions for the people's representatives to ask, and even expert answers to them will be welcomed.

THE NANCHANG AFFAIR.

(Daily Press, 29th June.)

It is to be trusted that the Nanchang massacre will prove to be the last of the long line of murderous disorders which have entailed disgrace on the Government of China, and more than anything else have compelled the civilised nations of the world to refuse to accept China as a nation on equal terms with themselves. Although in the beginning the world is willing to allow that the wrongdoing was not altogether on China's side, the subsequent conduct of the authorities, and the instigation of the mob to murder at the hands of the gentry of the province, were things which no self-respecting country could pass over. If the conduct of the priests, about which the Chinese make serious complaint, had only been laid in the proper manner before the French authorities, there was no reason to doubt that it would have been properly investigated and dealt with. As the authorities, instead of taking this course, were fatuous enough to appeal to mob law, no country—and in this connection France does not stand alone, but is backed up by the whole civilised world—could for one moment permit any presumed exterminating circumstances to enter into consideration. It is true that the punishment inflicted is a heavy one, but the crime was also a serious one, and (which the Chinese Government should once for all take to heart) was immensely aggravated by the fact that this time the criminals were those who were appointed to preserve order, and were trusted with the execution of even-handed justice. It is difficult to find a single plea in the conduct of this miserable business in favour of the Government of China. That Government in the first instance placed itself in the wrong by granting official rank to a body of men over whom it had no power of control; and the reason alleged for so doing, that thereby it hoped to remove responsibility off its own shoulders, was a proof, if any such were needed, of its incapacity to rule. Had it done this under

compulsion without remonstrance, however much we should have felt inclined to pity, we could not have held it guiltless. The fact of the matter was that the action was taken without any consultation with France. It is not for us to make any comments on the indemnity that France has exacted. There are things that by international law belong to the country wronged exclusively. We are, however, heartily glad that the matter has been settled at last, and hope that the belated acknowledgement by China of the crime may lead to a better understanding for the future. In this all civilised countries are at one, and it will be well for China in her own interest, to remember that it is not by flaunting herself before the world that she can ever hope to earn respect. No country, as no individual, can afford to stand alone. The law is universal and lies at the basis of all human intercourse. Mencius did his best to inculcate this fact. There are the Empire, the State and the Family. The Empire has its origin in the State; the State in the Family; and the Family in the individual. When the rulers are straight the whole realm will follow. This and not petty attempts at isolation is the continual cry of the old teachers, and what is true of the individual is equally true of the State. Only by emulating what is best in other lands can China hope to raise herself. This is the lesson which China has forgotten. If the punishment inflicted for the crime of Nanchang will lead her to think this out for herself, it will have proved an inestimable blessing, not so much for the world, as for China herself.

But, as we have lately had too much reason to regret, it is not only in Nanchang, and not only amongst officials who perhaps have not had much personal knowledge of the world outside China, that like feelings and like methods have of late been in evidence. We have seen officials trained abroad equally ready on their return to China to call in the aid of mob rule. We have seen foolish attempts to exclude foreign capital, simply because it was foreign, not because it in any way interfered with the independence of the country, but merely that it seemed the only way of excluding emulation, which China in her heart of hearts knows would lead her insensibly to reform the errors of her way. It is not ignorance, nor lack of understanding that stands in the way. Chinese officials in point of intelligence take a high rank amongst the nations but the inertness of centuries clings to the race; and it hesitates to take the step which it yet feels and knows to be essential to its own happiness. Perhaps wounded pride has something to say to this strange proceeding, but the wounds have been mostly self-inflicted. None of the Governments of the world would willingly hurt China's feelings; most of them would rather strain every nerve to keep on pleasant terms; but China herself by outraging every rule of social intercourse has hitherto rendered this impractical. Are we any nearer to a better understanding? And is any one of the leaders of public opinion prepared in the face of the clamour of the mob to move to the front?

Following is a translated quotation from a not very trustworthy native paper: At the request of the Japanese Government, the foreign concession at Mukden, which was declared open to foreign trade on the 1st inst., will be placed under the exclusive control of the Japanese, while it is expected that Antung and Tatung-kou, which will be opened shortly, will be jointly administered by Japan and the United States. The Consuls of these two countries have taken up their duties at Mukden, and the Peking Government has been notified to this effect.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held on June 28th in the Council Chamber at 2.30 p.m.

PRESENT:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, SIR MATTHEW NATHAN, K.C.M.G.
HIS EXCELLENCY MAJOR-GENERAL VIL- LIERS HATTON, C.B. (Commanding the Troops).
Hon. Mr. T. SERCOMBE SMITH (Colonial Secretary).
Hon. SIR H. S. BERKELEY, (Attorney-General).
Hon. Mr. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).
Hon. Mr. A. W. BREWIN (Registrar-General).
Hon. Captain L. A. W. BARNES-LAWRENCE, R.N. (Harbour Master).
Hon. Mr. W. CHATHAM (Director of Public Works).
Hon. Dr. HO KAI, M.B., C.M., C.M.G.
Hon. Mr. WEI YUK.
Hon. Mr. E. OSBORNE.
Hon. Mr. E. A. HEWETT.
Hon. Mr. W. J. GRESSON.
Mr. A. G. M. FLETCHER (Clerk of Council).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

FINANCIAL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY, by command of His Excellency, laid on the table Financial Minutes 41 to 42, and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded.

HIS EXCELLENCY—The first of these two small votes, which it is proposed to refer to the Finance Committee, is required on account of there having unfortunately been more executions this year than last year. The necessity for the second arises from a preliminary inspection of weights and measures that was made in the New Territory, where it was found that rough steel yards not very accurate and giving facilities for fraud were in general use. An inspector of weights and measures has therefore been appointed, and the vote now asked for is to provide standard weights for his guidance.

This was agreed to.

FINANCE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved that the report of the Finance Committee be adopted.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and this was agreed to.

LAW COMMITTEE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the adoption of the report of the Standing Law Committee, which having considered the Bill entitled an Ordinance to regulate the qualifications and to provide for the registration of dentists, at three consecutive meetings, found it impracticable under existing circumstances to frame a measure which would bear equally upon the various races of the community, and unanimously recommended that the Bill be withdrawn. He said—As honourable members will observe, the Law Committee, after having had three consecutive meetings to consider this Bill, have come to the conclusion it would be best for the Government to withdraw this Bill for further consideration. The reasons which led the Committee to adopt that course, I think I will, with your permission, state to you. At the second reading of this Bill it passed without any comment of any kind except from myself. There was no opposition to the principle and I assumed that it was generally accepted as a Bill which might pass as it was framed. I therefore moved that the Bill be referred to the Law Committee. I am not certain I am not somewhat to blame in having withdrawn the Bill by that motion from the consideration of the general body of the members of the Council and referred it to a special body, the Law Committee, whose duty it is to see that the Bill in its legal shape is calculated to give effect to its principles. That Bill came before the Law Committee, and that was all the Committee gave its attention to. The Bill came back with slight modifications, nothing that would affect the principle of the Bill which set forth that persons entitled to practice dentistry in the Colony should possess certain qualifications set out in the Bill. After

the Bill was read a second time certain criticisms were suggested, criticisms made with the object of improving the Bill no doubt, but criticisms which it would have been well had they been delivered by members at the table. The Bill was again considered in the light of the suggestions that had been made, and was brought up to the Council a second time. In the meantime between the report by the Committee and the meeting of the Council to consider the report, the Bill had been subjected to further criticism. The first point was that the Bill if passed into law would cause dentistry to be dearer to the inhabitants generally than it is at the present moment. By restricting the number of persons who practice in the Colony you will raise the cost of the dental service. The second objection was this, that the effect of requiring registration of dentists would be that the great body of Chinese and other Asiatics who live in the Colony would be deprived of dental aid because the unqualified Chinese and other dentists who practice at present would pass away in course of time, and would not be replaced. In other words the Chinese and other Asiatics would not be able to pay the fees which it was natural to expect would be demanded by persons who were properly trained dentists, as only the qualified persons would be allowed to practice. It was suggested that that difficulty might be overcome by exempting what were called Chinese dentists, and so the Law Committee at its final consideration of the Bill had these two propositions before it. As to the first of these, it could not be denied. If they limited the number of persons who were to practice it would be difficult for dentists to get assistants, and they could be sure that prices will not go down, but in all probability they would go up. On the second point they had to admit that the criticism was exact; that unless the Bill was altered in a way to exempt Chinese dentists—those who worked among the poorer people—the Chinese would be without any dental assistance. It was proposed to exempt Chinese dentists as in the case of Chinese medical practitioners, but the hon. senior unofficial member, Dr. Ho Kai, pointed out there was no such thing as Chinese dentistry. There was a system of Chinese medicine, but you cannot define a Chinese dentist as practising a system of Chinese dentistry. It was therefore impossible to amend the Bill in that way. Having regard to the first consideration, and in view of the difficulty, the impracticability from our point of view of making the necessary amendments, and in view of the feelings which pervaded the Committee generally, and which I am inclined to think is somewhat general throughout the community, that the Bill is really not called for in the interests of the community, the Committee came to the conclusion to recommend the Government to consent to the Bill being withdrawn. Therefore, I now move the adoption of this report.

Dr. Ho Kai seconded. He said—When the Bill came up for the second reading I did not oppose it in Council, thinking that in committee some clause might be introduced to modify the Bill and make it applicable to the mixed community in this Colony, that is to say those Europeans or those who care to pay a heavy fee for high-class dentistry should be at liberty to do so, but at the same time the poorer classes of the community, Europeans as well as Chinese and others, should as heretofore be allowed to employ Chinese or other dentists who have not obtained the qualifications required by the New Ordinance. I was thinking of introducing a clause something like the one contained in the Medical Ordinance, exempting Chinese dentists who might be allowed to practice as heretofore, and providing that the provisions of the new Ordinance should not apply to them. If that were not put in the effect would be that a large number of the community of Hongkong would be without efficient dental aid. As regards Chinese dentistry, so far as my experience goes the Chinese have no system of dentistry to speak of, most of the Chinese dentists in this Colony practise the European system of dentistry, therefore if that exemption were granted, the Chinese would be favoured and the European practitioners would be placed in a disadvantageous position. After a considerable debate and discussion, it was agreed that for the present there was no need for an Ordinance of this kind, and for this reason I beg to second the motion,

and I hope the Council will unanimously consent to the withdrawal of this Bill.

Hon. Mr. Hewett—I trust I may be in order in supporting the resolution that this Bill should be withdrawn, if I state briefly my reasons for supporting the resolution. The hon. and learned Attorney-General just now seemed to suggest that members who had criticisms to offer against the Bill should have done so at the second reading. Personally I disapproved of the Bill, and I am very glad that this course has been adopted in connection with it. I did not speak on the second reading, as the hon. and learned Attorney-General had proposed that it be referred to the Law Committee, and it seemed to me it would undoubtedly be materially altered in committee. If in my ignorance of the procedure of the Council I deferred my remarks to a less suitable date I express my regret. At the second reading of the Bill I think I am right in stating that the hon. and learned Attorney-General stated that one of the reasons is as far as possible to ensure that for the future persons practising as dentists in this Colony shall be professionally educated as such. He further spoke of the Bill as being liberal in its scope, "because it is proposed to permit persons possessing qualifications as dentists other than those recognised by the Medical Council of England to practice. In other words it is proposed that the large body of American dentists who have been practising here for many years shall continue to do so if they possess the qualifications which the Bill requires; that is to say, if they have a degree or diploma granted by the universities of Pennsylvania, Michigan or Harvard". We all know, Sir, that it is the human failing of the fond parent to ignore the faults of his offspring, and I can only suppose that this feeling explains the mental attitude which the hon. and learned Attorney-General has adopted towards his child, the Bill for the registration of dentists. He claims that it is a liberal measure, but I fail to find any indications of liberality in it at all. We know perfectly well that at the number of colleges where diplomas are granted the men must undergo a severe training, and must be highly qualified to enter a position of helping suffering humanity, but in this Bill it was proposed to deprive gentlemen who have been following an honourable calling with success to themselves and satisfaction to their patrons of their livelihood. One small exception is to be made in favour of dentists holding certificates granted by the three American colleges. Members will remember that we are indebted to the United States for the discovery of dentistry. There are in Hongkong a number of highly-trained men engaged in the profession, who, if this Bill became law, would be deprived of their livelihood. That is to say, that the effect of this provision that only those holding British diplomas or those who are graduates of the three universities in the United States shall be entitled to practice, the effect is to practically make a close corporation. As I have already said, one of the provisions of the Bill was to ensure that those who practised dentistry shall have had a proper professional training, but section 1 of the Ordinance distinctly exempts from professional training any man who likes to practise dentistry in Hongkong. I maintain, without fear of contradiction from any hon. member present, that no medical men who are not trained as dentists are qualified to act as dentists, and I for one should be extremely sorry to put myself into the hands of medical men where there were specially trained men whose services as dentists were available. I will not go further into detail, but I would remark, your Excellency, that there are a large number of people, Chinese and others, who cannot afford to pay the high fees charged by those special experts in the Colony and have to obtain a certain amount of relief at less cost. I think it will be admitted that it is not necessary to have the same high standard for dentistry as for medical surgery, yet according to the Bill you are enforcing a higher standard for dentists than for medical practitioners. The medical profession is practically thrown open to anyone. According to section 1 of the Ordinance of 1884 the medical profession is open to anyone who has a diploma, provided he has a good character. (Quoted section 1 of Ordinance of 1884). Now in the event of this Bill becoming law, the effect would be to impose greater restrictions upon dentists

than are imposed on the medical profession. If it became law nobody but those holding British diplomas or diplomas from the American universities would be allowed to practise, whereas now people of any nationality can practise as doctors.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—No. If a German doctor practises here he must have English qualifications.

Mr. HEWETT—I am a member of the Medical Board. I only remember one application being refused. That was a doctor holding a diploma from a college in the United States, and the reason the application was refused was that he had not served the minimum number of years that were required by the British Medical Board. If this Bill is put forward in the interests of the public, it will have to be considerably modified. I have pointed out that it will make dentistry a close corporation, that it will not improve the standard of dentistry, that it would increase the cost of charges here which are already sufficiently high, and it will deprive the poorer class of people of any dental aid at all. I can only say, in conclusion, that this Bill does not appear to have been called for, except perhaps by one or two professional men. The majority of the members do not desire this measure, which is absolutely unnecessary and uncalled for. Furthermore, I maintain its principles were unjust. They were opposed to the principles on which our colonies have been successfully guided, that we admit anybody, whatever his nationality, provided he comes there to work honestly and is likely to make a good citizen. Why should we depart from the traditions of our empire and begin to legislate against certain people? I am glad the Bill has been withdrawn, and I hope that next time the Bill is brought forward it will be free of the objectionable features which this Bill possesses.

His EXCELLENCY—Before putting the motion I should like to enquire of the Hon. the Attorney-General whether without this Bill it is possible for dentists not holding a British diploma to recover fees?

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I don't know. I would rather not say.

The COLONIAL TREASURER—That is a matter of agreement, Sir.

His EXCELLENCY—Can you recover on such an agreement?

The COLONIAL TREASURER—Certainly.

Mr. HEWETT—The usual practice here among dentists is to examine you for nothing and give you an estimate of the cost of the work that may be necessary.

His EXCELLENCY—That does not answer the question I ask.

Mr. HEWETT—I beg your pardon.

His EXCELLENCY—The question is whether they can legally recover fees?

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I cannot say. There is no legislation on the subject.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—There is an Imperial Act.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—Yes.

The motion was agreed to.

REFUSE DESTROYER.

The Hon. DIRECTOR of PUBLIC WORKS laid on the table the report of proceedings of the Public Works Committee at a meeting held on June 21st. It reads as follows:

The Committee had before it a scheme for reclaiming an area of land immediately west of Cadogan Street and south of Carter Street (extended), and for erecting on this a destructor capable of dealing with 100 tons of refuse per day, together with quarters for a superintendent and 300 coolies, the estimated cost being as follows:—

Reclamation of site, including 50-foot road in extension of Clater Street,	\$160,700
Destructor buildings, including piled foundations, chimney, approach road (incline) and iron boundary fence,	98,100
Machinery, including 12 cells and furnaces with fan and engine, two boiler, slab-making machine, tram-lines and truck, etc.,	8,500
Quarters for Superintendent,	15,000
Do. 30 Coolies,	75,000

Total, ... \$431,300

After full discussion, it was resolved unanimously that the Committee are prepared to recommend, in principle, the provision of a destructor for dealing with the refuse of the city of Victoria, but advise that, before any further steps are taken, the makers of the type of destructor which it is proposed to adopt should be requested to send out a representative to investigate local conditions and submit a tender, accompanied by a guarantee for 3 years, for dealing effectively with 100 tons of refuse per day.

HIS EXCELLENCY—I have already explained to the Council that it will not be possible to take action at once on this report of the Public Works Committee with regard to the proposed refuse destructor. The subject is one which has been under my consideration for a long time, I am perfectly satisfied that the provision of such a destructor is the only satisfactory way of getting rid of the refuse of this city. I assure the Council the matter will not be lost sight of as soon as it is possible to make the necessary financial provision for it.

MINERALS IN THE NEW TERRITORY.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to empower the Governor to grant licences to search for and prove minerals and to grant licences and leases of land for the purpose of working mines and minerals. He said—If minerals should be found in the new Territory it is well the Governor should have the right to authorise persons to go and prospect for them. If they should be found in paying quantities it would add enormously to the wealth of the Colony. It is desirable that His Excellency should have power to grant licences and leases.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and this was agreed to.

On the motion of the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, seconded by the COLONIAL SECRETARY, the Council went into committee and considered the Bill clause by clause.

On the Council resuming,

HIS EXCELLENCY reported that the Bill had passed through committee without amendment.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—The Bill has just passed through committee, and as the next meeting of Council will not be for some considerable time it is well that the Bill giving these powers should become law at the earliest possible moment. I beg to move the suspension of the Standing Orders, and with the consent of this House to move that the Bill be read a third time.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the Bill passed into law.

BILL DISCHARGED.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved that the second order of the day, the consideration in committee of the Dentists' Bill, be discharged.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and this was agreed to.

NAVAL AND MILITARY WORKS.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the third reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to authorize the construction and maintenance of certain naval and military works upon and over certain portions of the Crown foreshore and sea bed situate upon the harbour frontage of the City of Victoria, in this Colony.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the Bill passed into law.

HIS EXCELLENCY—The Council stands adjourned till after the meeting of the Finance Committee.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held afterwards—the Colonial Secretary presiding. The following votes were passed:

PRISON DEPARTMENTS.

The GOVERNOR recommended the Council to vote a sum of one hundred dollars (\$100) in aid of the vote, Police and Prison Department, Prison—Other Charges, Executioner's Fee, and for Inflicting Corporal Punishment.

JUDICIAL AND LEGAL.

The GOVERNOR recommended the Council to vote a sum of four hundred and eighteen dollars and thirty cents (\$418.30) in aid of the vote, Judicial and Legal Departments, B.—Magistracy—Other Charges, New Territories, Weights.

On the Council resuming.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—As it is understood that the Council will not meet till 6th September it may be necessary to use the money provided for in the two minutes just passed by the committee. I beg to report Sir, that the sums of money recommended to be paid in Financial Minutes 41 to 42 have been approved unanimously. I beg to move the adoption of the report.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and this was agreed to.

HIS EXCELLENCY—The Council stands adjourned until Thursday, September 6th, at 2.30 p.m. when I hope to be able to lay before hon. members the Estimates for the year 1907 and also some important legislation.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on June 26th at the Board Room. The Hon. Dr. F. Clark (president) presided, and there were also present—Dr. Pearce, M.O.H., Hon. Mr. A. W. Brewin, Hon. Mr. W. Chatham, Dr. Macfarlane, Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewett, Lieut.-Col. Sparkes, Mr. F. J. Badeley, Mr. A. Shelton Hooper, Mr. H. Humphreys, Mr. Fung Wa-chun, Mr. Lau Chu-pak, and Mr. G. A. Woodcock (secretary).

SHOULD MEMBERS' SPEECHES BE MINUTED.

On the minutes being submitted for approval, Mr. SHELTON HOOPER referred to one omission in the minutes.

Mr. BREWIN then remarked that the reference to confidential papers seemed out of place in the minutes, which were minutes of the proceedings of the Board and not minutes of the President's opinion or Mr. Hooper's inquiries as to what his opinions were. The same applied to the limewashing, the statements concerning which should not be inserted in the minutes. If all that were to be put in it would lengthen the proceedings considerably. Certainly it was not in accord with the usual form.

The PRESIDENT agreed to some extent with Mr. Brewin, especially as to the first portion, but he thought the questions and answers as to limewashing should be recorded.

Mr. HOOPER said that the minutes could not be questioned except with regard to their accuracy, and accuracy included completeness. It seemed to him any speech a member made ought to be recorded in the minutes. No objection could be taken to that. He saw no reason why their minutes should not be as full as possible, and he would go further and say that they ought to be fuller in the future than in the past.

The PRESIDENT—It is a matter entirely for the Board.

THE LIMEWASHING QUESTION.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH said—Mr. Humphreys said at a previous meeting of the Board that a medical officer of the Board had informed members that limewashing was not a disinfectant. I never informed the Board and Dr. Macfarlane said he did not, therefore Mr. Humphreys must be under a wrong impression.

Mr. HUMPHREYS—I don't think I am.

The PRESIDENT—You asked me, and I said it was not.

Mr. HUMPHREYS—I think you said distinctly at that meeting that limewashing was not a disinfectant?

The PRESIDENT—That is so.

Mr. HUMPHREYS—You upheld it on the ground that it was conducive to cleanliness.

The PRESIDENT—I think you are out of order in discussing the question.

Mr. HUMPHREYS—I move the suspension of the standing orders.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK seconded.

The REGISTRAR-GENERAL—I am opposed to the motion. This is not a question of urgency.

The PRESIDENT—And we have a very large agenda before us.

Mr. HEWETT—I think it should be put to the vote.

The motion was carried.

Mr. HUMPHREYS—I was saying when you interrupted me—

The PRESIDENT—You will excuse me, but now you must move a resolution. You cannot speak on an abstract subject, and with regard to my interrupting you, it is my duty to interrupt you when you break the standing orders.

Mr. HUMPHREYS—I beg to move a resolution to the effect that the Government be recommended to go into the whole question of limewashing with a view to either modifying or doing away with the existing regulation.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK seconded.

The PRESIDENT—I am afraid the only answer we can expect is that it is the duty of the Board.

Mr. HUMPHREYS—I will alter the word Government, and insert the words "Sanitary Board."

The PRESIDENT—Well, practically you move that an investigation be conducted by the Board into the question?

Mr. HUMPHREYS—Yes.

The PRESIDENT—By the whole Board or a committee of the Board?

Mr. HUMPHREYS—By the whole Board.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK seconded the motion as amended.

The PRESIDENT—Are members in favour?

Mr. HOOPER—The question has not been discussed yet.

The PRESIDENT—Well, the mover should have discussed it when he moved his resolution.

Mr. HOOPER—But he is writing out his motion.

The PRESIDENT—Oh! I beg his pardon.

Mr. HUMPHREYS—I must take notice of your answers to the questions I submitted at that meeting, but at the same time I cannot think they are altogether conclusive. It has been found recently that mortar from the walls of a Paris hospital contained 46 per cent. of organic matter. Organic matter is full of life, may be of harmless germs, but on the other hand it may be of germs harmful to life. Before coming to any definite conclusion I would like to submit samples taken from the basements of houses belonging to the Company I manage, and send them to a bacteriologist in Europe. The whole question of limewashing has perhaps given rise to more friction than any regulation we have. The house owners of Hongkong spend a lakh and a half of dollars annually in limewashing Chinese flats. The old limewash is not scraped off, we simply smear—I think "smear" is the proper word to use—the fresh limewash on to the old wall. The Government bacteriologist maintains that organic matter is destroyed, but I have grave doubt about it myself. In my opinion the smearing over of these walls makes them like a white-washed sepulchre—fair without and foul within (laughter). Until I get conclusive proof to the contrary I will still hold to my opinion.

The motion was carried.

STANDING ORDERS.

The PRESIDENT—The Board will now resume. Before proceeding with the agenda I think this is the proper place in which to give the answer to the question raised by Mr. Hooper at the last meeting, which is recorded on the minutes. The answer is—

Mr. HOOPER—Which question are you alluding to?

The PRESIDENT—You asked—"Do you admit that the standing orders made by the Board in December, 1903, can still be enforced by the Board?" The answer is only so far as such standing orders relate to regulations or procedure at meetings of the Board. Standing orders for the guidance of officers and servants of the Sanitary Department are now administered by the P.C.M.O. as administrative head of the Department.

Mr. HOOPER—Arising out of your answer, I take it that the standing orders of the Board for the guidance of our meetings stand good.

The PRESIDENT—Yes, so far as they are in accordance with the Ordinance.

Mr. HOOPER—Then I think it is not out of place to ask you if you still adhere to your ruling that I should be out of order if I moved that something you considered confidential should be considered in public. I would ask the question seeing you have been advised by the law officer of the Crown.

The PRESIDENT—Such a motion as you suggest would not be necessary. It is one of the duties of the President to arrange provisionally what matters had better be discussed in public and what matters confidentially, subject of course to any change made at the meeting. When public matters are discussed and a motion is presented that a few subjects should be taken confidentially,

that would be the time when the question should be raised as to whether such papers should be put down to be considered confidentially or publicly.

Mr. HOOPER—I must say a little more on that. Your reason for ruling me out of order when I moved that a certain matter be discussed in public was that the Government had requested that such similar communications should be considered in private, and until that was rescinded you would rule me out of order. You gave me a direct answer and I ask you to-day whether you stand by that answer or are prepared to modify it.

The PRESIDENT—I am prepared to stand by the standing orders.

Mr. HOOPER—And do you think your ruling at last meeting was in accordance with the standing orders?

The PRESIDENT—There is a doubt in the matter.

Mr. HOOPER—Oh! That's all right.

QUESTIONS.

The following questions were asked by Mr. HUMPHREYS:—

Question 1. Has the distemper (i.e., limewash) from the interior walls of infected Chinese houses ever been bacteriologically examined with a view to ascertaining the percentage of organic matter therein or with a view of finding out whether the bacilli of tuberculosis, enteric or plague are present? If yes, state results for the information of the Board. If not, why not?

Question 2. Has the mortar from internal limewashed walls in infected Chinese houses ever been examined as above? If yes, state results. If not, why not?

Question 3. Has the distemper (i.e., lime-wash) or mortar from European dwellings such as Beaconsfield Arcade where plague has been recurrent ever been bacteriologically examined as in 1 and 2? If yes, state results. If not, why not?

Question 4. Is old limewash or distemper scraped off before now is put on? (There is nothing in the regulations to enforce this and in the case of Chinese dwellings it is not done as far as my own knowledge goes.)

Question 5. Does not size, which is analogous to gelatine, make one of the finest cultures for bacteria?

Question 6. Assuming that the mortar of internal walls in infected houses contained bacilli harmful to life, would not the coating of such walls with an innocuous substance like slaked lime mixed with a good germ culture like size increase the percentage of germs and organic matter by giving them more to feed on?

Question 7. Assuming the answer to 6 to be yes, is not the very large annual tax on the community which the limewashing regulations entail not only money wasted but money spent in fostering disease?

The replies by the PRESIDENT were:—

A. 1. On the 18th inst. I obtained a sample of limewash in actual use in a Chinese house in Queen's Road West and submitted it to the bacteriologist for examination. He reports that it contained no micro-organisms, that it was unable to support the life of the micro-organisms of plague, of typhoid, of cholera and of several others with which he experimented; that one part of the limewash added to five parts of a culture liquid containing actively growing organisms of the above diseases killed the organisms within twelve hours, and that the limewash when dry did not appear to favour the growth of these organisms. Further experiments are being conducted in regard to the dry limewash.

A. 2. Numerous experiments have been made in various parts of the world, in regard to viability of the bacillus of plague on the walls of plague infected houses, the results have shown that the bacillus does not survive these conditions for longer than seven days in temperate climates, and for a much less period in tropical countries.

A. 3. No. The reply to question 2 shows that the subject has been thoroughly investigated though not in connection with Beaconsfield Arcade.

A. 4. I understood that the walls are usually brushed and not scraped.

A. 5. No.

A. 6. No. The reply to question 1 shows that the limewash has the opposite effect.

A. 7.—

SENIOR INSPECTORS' POWERS.

A minute was submitted by the Medical Officer of Health requesting that the senior officers be authorised to enter premises and inspect food in accordance with section 83 of the Public Health and Building Ordinance 1903.

Mr. HUMPHREYS wrote—I am not in favour of increasing the powers of senior inspectors.

Mr. HOOPER—I agree with Mr. Humphreys. Surely three doctors and a veterinary surgeon are sufficient.

Mr. HEWETT—Nor I, unless some very good reason can be advanced.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK—The M.O.H. has not given any reason why this power should be extended to the senior inspectors. Are they qualified to pronounce that any food is unwholesome?

The M.O.H.—This matter arose in connection with some tinned food condemned the other day. I was informed in an anonymous letter that there was a quantity of bad tinned food in a certain shop. I had not time to visit the place myself, told an inspector to go and if he found the meat blown to ring me up. There would be no case, if this power were given to Inspectors, in which they would condemn food on their own account. I want them to have the right to enter a shop, seize food and bring it up here so that I or someone else may examine it.

Mr. HOOPER asked how many cases were reported to the M.O.H.

Dr. PEARSE replied about three or four a year. There was a great deal of cheap tinned food being sold that was not fit for consumption.

In reply to Mr. Hewett, Dr. PEARSE explained that he only wished the inspectors to be able to enter the premises under the written authority of the M.O.H. or C.V.S.

Mr. HEWETT said with that modification he saw no objection to the proposition. He suggested that the authority be given only to three officers.

The PRESIDENT—You can't have them trespassing on other districts. It must either be the six inspectors or none. Do you prefer six or none?

Mr. HEWETT—Oh, the six.

It was agreed that the resolution as drafted should be submitted to the Crown Solicitor for advice.

BADLY-MADE COFFINS.

Correspondence was submitted relative to the nuisance caused by badly-made private coffins.

When the Secretary read the minute by Mr. Fung Wa-chun—This most offensive nuisance ought to be stopped.

Mr. FUNG WA-CHUN interposed—What, what; I did not write that. Let me see it, please. I know my writing is bad.

On being handed the minute this gentleman said the minute read—This sort of nuisance, etc.

It was decided that the undertakers were responsible and the matter was left in the hands of the Registrar-General.

DEFYING THE BOARD.

In discussing the drainage work at St. Patrick's Club, Mr. HOOPER complained of the action of Mr. Warren, the architect, in proceeding with the work pending the decision of the Board, knowing that what he had done was against the regulations, and declared that Mr. Warren had acted in defiance of the Board. A strong protest should be sent to Mr. Warren.

The Board agreed.

LIVING IN PIG-STYES

The following letter written by Mr. Shelton Hooper was read:

Sir, I desire to bring to the notice of the Board the disgustingly dirty and insanitary state of the buildings and land at Tai Hang and Wong Nei Cheong. The floors of the licensed pig-styes are in a very bad condition, wide gaps existing in the joints between the rough granite stones forming the floors. The sumps are in a filthy condition and never seem to be cleared or emptied. The hydrant in the pathway is surrounded by water, the pathway between washed away 12 or 12 inches lower than the curb in Shepherd Street. Matcheds with floors in a wet and filthy condition are used as domestic dwellings. Clothes which are washed in the nullah are stored in these matcheds before being delivered in town. The matcheds in which bean curd is made and which was a little while ago partly burned

down has never been re-erected and is full of flies. The refuse of the matcheds is dumped in the nullah where the clothes are washed and licensed pig-styes are now used as domestic buildings. All the above refers to Tai Hang and an equally bad state of affairs exists at Wong Nei Cheong. The drain to the east side of the village, which is occasionally dammed across, causes the houses to be flooded. The hydrant is barely approachable on account of the condition of the road and the water from the hydrant was like thick milk. There is no public latrine but an improvised one in very bad condition. Several licensed pig-styes are used as domestic buildings and the pathways running between the buildings are in a filthy condition, having no properly constructed surface drains but those the water has made for itself. I have been informed that there have been unreported cases of smallpox, and there is a case of a man believed to be a leper, whom I saw. He said that he had been sent to Canton twice as a leper, but that they said at Canton that it was not leprosy. However, I think the case should be investigated. I fail to understand why such a state of affairs has been allowed to exist for so long, and I think the Board should take immediate action. I desire that this might be circulated as soon as possible.

Dr. PEARSE said he had not had time to go into details, but he had made a preliminary inspection of those villages. He was not inclined to view their condition with the same amount of alarm as Mr. Hooper. He admitted that a good deal might be done to make them tidier, while certain of the things mentioned had been reported before. The training of nullahs was very necessary, but some of that work was in progress. There was undoubtedly a good deal of rubbish lying about, but it did not do great harm, although it looked untidy. The pig-styes were in need of repairs and the reason why these had not been carried out was because the district had been without an inspector for some time. In conclusion, he said there were certain things which needed attention, and he proposed in the course of the next fortnight to investigate and report.

Mr. HOOPER remarked that Dr. Pearse's adjectives were milder than those he had used. The Doctor had not referred to the pig-styes being used as dwellings, and he moved that the licences be taken from those people.

The members agreed.

ANTHRAX.

A case of anthrax was reported by the C. V. S. at the Kennedy Town Cattle Depot.

CHINESE GRAVES.

A minute was submitted by the Sanitary Surveyor relative to the size of Chinese graves.

The PRESIDENT explained that it was desirable to have the paths wide enough to avoid a desecration of the graves.

It was agreed that the papers be referred to the Commission.

LIMEWASHING AT SHA PO.

Correspondence was submitted relative to the limewashing of the houses at Sha Po village, near Kowloon City.

The PRESIDENT recommended that the people be encouraged to do the work themselves.

CEILINGS AND PLAGUE.

Further correspondence was submitted relative to the removal of ceilings during the cleansing and disinfection of premises.

The REGISTRAR-GENERAL—All that is necessary is to invite the attention of the sub-committee to this point and to say that in the opinion of the Board compensation should include cost of making good the damage.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK—One course or other should be taken—either to make good of pay full compensation.

Mr. HUMPHREYS—I agree with Mr. Lau Chu-pak.

Mr. HOOPER—Compensation should certainly be paid for all damage done to the property.

STRONG WORDS.

Application was submitted for a modification of the requirements of Section 111 and 112 of the Public Health and Building Ordinance 1903 in respect of No. 384, Queen's Road West. The applicant pointed out how harshly the requirements would operate, the premises having been vacant and the work entailing an expenditure of a year's rent.

Mr. HUMPHREYS—My sympathies are with the applicant. The reckless way in which the Board has in the past ordered reconstructions and repairs amounting to tens of thousands of dollars has brought property to its present parlous condition. In some cases it virtually amounts to confiscation. Poor owners are ruined and rich ones crippled. Certainly I protest very strongly against this sort of thing being authorised on the recommendation only of an inspector. Let the Director of Public Works report on this case.

Mr. HOOPER—I think this matter should be compromised and the floor still made sanitary.

The Hon. REGISTRAR GENERAL—In a previous case of this kind did not some member of the P. W. D. inspect the premises?

A compromise, as suggested by Mr. Hooper, was adopted.

SUPREME COURT.

Monday, June 25th.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE).

A DISPUTED WILL.

Judgment was delivered in the case of Li Po-kwai and another v. Li Ling-shi. This was a claim under a will for one sixteenth part of Marine Lot 239 and Inland Lot 1,355, and for an account of the rent and profits thereon.

Mr. M. W. Slade, instructed by **Mr. John Hastings**, appeared for the plaintiffs, and **Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C.**, and **Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C.**, instructed by **Mr. R. Harding** (of Messrs. Ewans, Harston and Harding) represented the defendants.

His Lordship said—Li Sing was an old and wealthy Chinaman. He seems to have had other characteristics. He must have been wily, for he conceived the idea of dividing his property, or at least some \$4,000,000 worth, between his sons before his death, thereby enabling them to enjoy it without paying the usual tribute to the Government, known by the name of succession duty. He also had somewhat hazy views of the subjects of what belonged to him and what did not: for there is one admitted instance of his having included in this sub-division among his sons, property valued at over \$86,000, which belonged to the Lai Hing firm. It may well be that with declining years that delicate mental perception was wanting which was necessary to appreciate the somewhat complicated relations with the Lai Hing and with former owners of shares in the property, in the lots of land now in question. He also seems to have been a bit of a despot, for certainly Li Tsuk-chi, the executor of Li Ling's brother, Li Chit, did in the matter of the assignments to the sons what he was expected to do, trusting, I suppose, if he really knew what he was about, to correct matters afterwards, as he did in the case above mentioned. The question is whether it is not necessary to make another correction in the case of the property in dispute in this action, and which was included in the assignment to Li Po-lung. The plaintiffs' story is that they were willing to purchase a share in the property belonging to ancestor Tam Lai-tung, and the way in which this was done was by means of a purchase by Li Sing, and a retransfer of the property by him to them, the terms being the payment to the vendor of \$10,800 cash and the taking over of the liabilities to the Lai Hing of \$3,800. This transaction was proved by (1) a receipt from the Lai Hing of the sum of \$10,800 from the Po Shun-tung, that is, the two plaintiffs; (2) an entry in one of the Lai Hing books, abstracted by the plaintiff—publicly as he said—to the effect that the share was transferred to Li Sing, and on the same day parted up for the same price to the plaintiffs; (3) a balance-sheet book was made out for perusal of Po Chun-tung which dealt with the amount \$3,800 due to the Lai Hing; (4) a balance-sheet book of the previous year belonging to Tam Lai-tung in which there is a record of the transaction so far as it relates to Li Sing. The verbal arrangement between plaintiff and Li Sing was tendered in evidence and objected to. I admitted it subject to consideration. I do not,

however, discuss this question, for although the evidence is interesting, it is not of such importance that its rejection would have seriously prejudiced the plaintiffs' case, nor would it of itself be sufficient to support the plaintiffs' case. The defence to the action is a general denial, which in the box took the following forms. The first defendant did not appear, Counsel stating that she was a Chinese lady and therefore could not or would not go into the box. A dangerous doctrine as it seems to me when the lady has been taking a more or less active part in the management of an estate, and one to which in the absence of more light I cannot subscribe. The second defendant went into the box and shook his head to everything. In some things his negatives were equivalent to palpable untruths. I must not omit to mention the fact that the plaintiff Li Po-kwai is not wholly blameless in this respect. In one particular his evidence fell short of the statements supplied to his Counsel, and secondly, in spite of his denial there seems to have been no doubt that he was present at the division of property at Li Sing's house on April 3, 1900. No legal contingencies seem to me to attach to his presence: the utmost that can be said of it is that it affords grounds for comment. As to the delay in bringing his action, that of course goes to his credit, but I cannot attach any definite contingencies to this delay: and the question of credit really hardly arises. I have been obliged to notice these matters because they were gone into at the trial, but he whole and sole defence rests on the Statute of Frauds. More fully it is alleged that the signatures to the documents I have numbered two and four, and also to an intermediate document No. 5 of Li Sing, are forged. An old schoolmaster was tendered as an expert in handwriting and in his view the signature to four was genuine, so that the charge of forgery had a non-restricted area. The expert considered that the signature "Yuk" to the memo and that of Li Sing to five, were not genuine. His standards of comparisons were as to the "Yuk" a document produced by Sin Tak-fan known to contain the genuine "Yuk", and for the Li Sing a series of signatures on documents admitted to be genuine. I protest against persons going into the box to give expert evidence who ignore the elements on which such opinions should be founded. Ho Kan-po compares a character written on Chinese paper with others written on glazed English paper, and in part bases his opinion on certain strokes being sharp in one and blunt in the other. This is the merest triviality because although you may get crisp strokes on English paper the essential quality of brushwork on Chinese paper is its crispness, which the quality of English paper does not lend itself to the provision of. And his "Yuk" analysis was not much better, for I do not think he considered too carefully the conditions under which the two signatures respectively were written. One point especially was worthy of his attention. Both characters were obviously written with an almost dry pen, and there is no telling what will result from a dry pen, whether it will correctly produce in the way of loops and flourishes all that is required of it.

I should require much more skilled evidence to induce me to accept the proposition which seems to underlie this witness' evidence, that all Chinamen at all times and under all circumstances always write the characters of their names in an identical manner. It would be impossible for me to find forgery on such evidence as was given. But the schoolmaster's evidence is fatal to the defendant who called him. He practically pronounced in favour of the genuineness of the signature in exhibit 6, the balance sheet belonging to Tam Sai-tung. The two signatures had been challenged like the signatures to the other documents, and there is no doubt that the original case was that this document was forged, but this was afterwards abandoned and the documents admitted to be genuine. It is true that this document only related to the first branch of the alleged transaction, the sale to Li Ling, and not the transfer to the plaintiffs. But if you put a case of forgery forward, and half of it breaks down or is abandoned, it requires an exceptionally strong case to support

the case of forgery against the remainder. A case of forgery cannot, therefore, in my opinion be held to be established; there are therefore documents which I hold to be genuine, and which satisfy the requirements of the Statute of Frauds. Judgment for the plaintiffs with costs.

AN UNCOMPLETED CONTRACT.

His Lordship delivered his deferred judgment in the case in which Ho Tung sued Chung Shun-koo for the specific performance of an agreement of lease, and to recover \$6,000, arrears of rent.

Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., instructed by **Mr. R. Stevenson** (of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon) appeared for the plaintiff, while **Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C.**, instructed by **Mr. M. J. D. Stephens**, represented the defendant.

His Lordship said he had already intimated that the plaintiff was entitled to judgment on the claim, and that the defendant was entitled to judgment on the counter-claim, the question reserved being as to the amount of damages. The defendant so confused his case with the amount of details he introduced that it was difficult to disentangle. It was clear the front shops were finished too late, and that the defendant was to have complete possession, except the *Daily Press*, on July 1st. In view of his finding on the principal point in the action, that the *Daily Press* was not to go out in February, defendant would not have let the upper floors until they were finished, therefore the alleged loss to Lantz, Wegener and Co. or other person was immaterial. The premises were to have been finished by Messrs. Palmer and Turner on October 15th, but they were not finished until November 15th. As it was difficult to assess such damages, as there were always so many contingent damages which could not actually be specified, his Lordship thought \$1,500 would correctly express the counter-claim, therefore he thought defendant was entitled to judgment on the counter-claim for that amount. The plaintiff would be allowed costs on the claim, and the defendant on the counter-claim.

Mr. Sharp asked his Lordship to consider the costs in connection with the counter-claim. The matter of costs was in his Lordship's discretion, and his Lordship had good grounds for disallowing the costs of Chung Shun-koo. Defendant refused specific performance on the grounds that the plaintiff had expressly promised that the *Daily Press* should leave in February. This was his case; and **Mr. Sharp** submitted that he should wholly prove that case.

His Lordship said he thought on the whole that that part of the case could always have been separated from the case as put forward. It certainly was put forward in a complicated, confused, and not very honest way. The defendant disassociated himself, in his Lordship's mind, from the main case, and if Ho Tung had been well advised he would have seen that there was some delay in the *Daily Press* not going out until July. The ordinary rate of costs would obtain.

Tuesday, June 26th.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE).

A DISPUTED CONSIDERATION.

Chan Tsak sued **Chin Yeung-leung** to recover the sum of \$2,000 balance of purchase money in respect of the sale of certain property.

Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by **Mr. G. Hastings** (of Mr. John Hastings' office), appeared for the plaintiff, and **Mr. M. W. Slade**, instructed by **Mr. F. X. d'Almada's Castro**, for the defendant.

Mr. Pollock said the writ in this case was issued on June 5th, 1905, the statement of claim was filed on November 11th, 1905, the statement of defence on December 12th and the amended statement of defence on June 14th, 1906. On the pleadings it was stated that this property was held by **Chan Tsak** in trust for **Chan Kwong-yam** as beneficial owner. In their amended statement of defence the defendant said that in reality **Chan Tsak** held the property for **Chan Kwong-yam**, and that he held it for

the Nam Sang Yee firm. It was agreed between the parties that no cash was actually paid, but where they were at issue with the other side was as to what was actually the consideration paid for. They contended that the notes referred to in the amended statement of defence, making altogether \$10,000, formed the consideration. The defendants contended that seven promissory notes were handed over as the consideration instead of five. These notes came from the Nam Sang Yee firm, and were chopped by Chan Kwing-yam himself. The dispute was as to whether there were five or seven notes, and also the further question as to whether it was agreed that interest should be included in the arrangement or not. Leaving out the interest, the amount of the five notes was \$10,000. The plaintiff said that this \$2,000 was left as it were unaccounted for, but it was arranged that this sum should not be paid direct to Chan Kwing-yam, but to a witness called Chan Yu-ting, a sort of middleman or stakeholder appointed between the parties. Chan Kwing-yam was to use that \$2,000 in part to make certain payments. Another curious point raised in the amended statement of defence was that Chan Tack, who held the property, was an infant son of Chan Kwing-yam. The defendant also alleged that Chan Tack was impersonated by a man called Ko Ah-wai in signing to the defendant. This the plaintiff denied.

Evidence was called, and the case adjourned.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

AN UNPAID BALANCE.

Lu Sik-ting, trading as the Kwong Yee, sued the Wing Kee Kung Sz firm to recover the sum of \$251.40, balance of amount owing in respect of goods sold and delivered.

Mr. Jackson (of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon) appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Otto Kong Sing represented the defendant.

Mr. Kong Sing denied that the defendant obtained any stone from the plaintiff.

His Lordship—It comes to this. You've got some stone which you have not paid for.

Mr. Kong Sing—We have not had it from the plaintiff. The man from whom we had the stone is indebted to us, and with respect to these 40 stones a contract was entered into with him.

His Lordship—You cannot bring these different actions into this. The only thing I have got clear in my mind now is that somebody has had some stone and has not paid for it.

Mr. Kong Sing—We say we don't owe any money; we had the stones from a man who is indebted to us.

His Lordship—Pay the money into Court, then if you have an action, bring it against the man in your debt.

Mr. Kong Sing—My friend has an action against the same man; let him bring it.

His Lordship—Are you going to stick to your 40 slabs without paying?

Mr. Kong Sing—We never had them from plaintiff. We had them from a witness.

His Lordship—I am not going to let you have them for nothing.

Mr. Kong Sing—We have to pay the man we got them from. The plaintiff in this action has already had \$100 on another contract; now he sues us for 40 stones which were delivered by Shun Kee.

Mr. Grist—You've got to pay somebody. You don't care who you pay.

His Lordship—And you can get a receipt in full.

Mr. Kong Sing—The plaintiff's solicitors wrote a letter asking us to take delivery of 71 stones, and he had no stones.

His Lordship—Why don't you get yourself out of this, then you can summons Shun Kee for breach of contract. Pay into Court for what you received and I will order the action to be withdrawn or non-suited.

Mr. Kong Sing—If your Lordship non-suits the plaintiff without costs.

His Lordship—I want you to pay the money in first. The action is dismissed.

A DISPUTED DEPOSIT.

Leung Yan v. Leung Lai-chun was a case in which the plaintiff claimed the return of a deposit of \$400 from the defendant.

Mr. Otto Kong Sing appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. E. J. Grist (of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) for the defendant.

Mr. Kong Sing said the action was brought for the refund of a deposit of \$400 paid as security on the hiring or chartering of a steam launch. The plaintiff on March 6th, 1905, chartered the launch *Yat San* from the defendants, and at the time the charter was agreed to the hiring was fixed upon at \$160. On March 6th \$160 was paid in advance as hire, and on the following day an agreement was drawn up by the defendant and signed by him; and in that agreement it was stated that there was a sum of \$400 deposited by the plaintiff with the defendant as security for the hire. On the same day a receipt was also given for \$160 paid on the previous day.

His Lordship—Was the rate \$160 a month payable in advance?

Mr. Kong Sing—Yes. This receipt was lost by the plaintiff, but a witness would be called to prove that the money was paid over. The launch was run on subsequent dates in respect of this agreement, and as the installments became due they were paid by the plaintiff, and receipts were given by the defendant. Some of these receipts were not stamped, but Mr. Kong Sing submitted that they might be stamped afterwards.

His Lordship—Can you stamp a receipt afterwards? Is it one of the things you can stamp after execution?

Mr. Grist—No.

Mr. Kong Sing—It is one of the things not mentioned in the Stamp Ordinance at all.

His Lordship—Can you do it? You cannot stamp a promissory note afterwards.

Mr. Kong Sing—No, my Lord.

His Lordship—Well, I want to know whether you can stamp this.

Mr. Grist—I admit we signed and gave the second receipt, but not the first.

His Lordship—It is rather funny. The writing in the second and third receipts is the same, but the first apparently is not.

Mr. Kong Sing—They are all the same, my Lord. (After referring to Stamp Ordinance)—It does not mention anything about receipts in the schedule.

His Lordship—If it does not mention anything, why do you put a receipt stamp on? This schedule has been struck out and re-enacted from 1902. I cannot take the receipt as it stands.

After hearing the evidence, his Lordship gave judgment for plaintiff and costs.

Wednesday, June 27th.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

ALLEGED BREACH OF CONTRACT.

Messrs. Carlowitz and Co. sued the Fuk Lee firm and Fok Kam-chuen, a partner therein, to recover the sum of \$303.20 damages suffered by reason of a breach by the defendants of a contract in writing dated 19th December, 1905, whereby the defendants agreed to purchase 1,000 boxes of window glass, and have refused to take delivery of 160 boxes thereof.

Mr. R. F. C. Master (of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master) appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. F. B. L. Bowley (of Messrs. Dennys and Bowley) for the defendants.

Mr. Master stated that in December last a contract was entered into between Messrs. Carlowitz and the defendants for the sale of 1,000 boxes of window glass of certain measurements. The goods arrived in Hongkong within three or four months, and there was no question as to the contract.

Mr. Bowley—We accepted delivery of 340 out of 500 cases, but refused to accept the remainder on account of the quality.

Mr. Master—Five hundred cases arrived about April 11th, and the defendants refused to take delivery of 160 of them. As soon as the goods arrived due notice was given the defendants by Messrs. Carlowitz in the ordinary way.

His Lordship (to Mr. Bowley)—You admit that?

Mr. Bowley—Yes.

His Lordship—Is it purely and simply a case as to quality?

Mr. Bowley—Our case is that the goods are not of a merchantable quality.

His Lordship—Well, let us confine ourselves to that.

Mr. Master—Soon after the goods arrived the defendants went to examine them in the godown. Then they went to the plaintiffs and objected to taking delivery on the grounds that the goods were damaged by seawater. The plaintiffs then had a survey of the goods made by Captain Douglas, and on his report it was found there was no sea damage to the glass. The cases were dusty externally and stained, but the glass was not damaged.

His Lordship—Is the stuff in existence now?

Mr. Master—It has been sold by auction.

His Lordship—You are going to call Captain Douglas, and they are going to call Mr. Lammert?

Mr. Master—Yes.

His Lordship—Well, one man will probably contradict the other. What can I do?

Mr. Master—The plaintiffs then gave notice to the defendants, and threatened proceedings if they did not take delivery.

His Lordship—We have got down to the point of sea damage.

Mr. Bowley—No, my Lord. My client went to the plaintiffs and said the goods were damaged; he said nothing about sea damage.

Mr. Master—The question really is whether the goods were in a merchantable condition. The goods were sold and they fetched \$3.90 a case.

His Lordship—You don't dispute that, Mr. Bowley?

Mr. Bowley—I don't dispute the price realised at the sale.

His Lordship—Somebody will have to be called to say whether that is a fair marketable price.

Mr. Master—I will call the auctioneer. Another point is raised by my friend's letter of April 21st: the plaintiffs were selling window glass, not boxes, and if they delivered the contract quantity that was all that was required of them.

Mr. Bowley—The whole of the correspondence must go in.

His Lordship—All right. I shan't read it. The contract will speak for itself.

While evidence was being taken, his Lordship asked—Supposing a man brought out a dress for his wife and the box in which it was contained was damaged, and the water soaked through and rusted the tin lining: he could not recover?

Mr. Bowley—Quite so, my Lord, but that is only one box.

His Lordship—It would be all the same if you brought out 1,000 dresses.

Mr. Bowley—I don't think that is likely (laughter).

Evidence was concluded, and the case adjourned *sine die*.

Thursday, June 28th.

IN BANKRUPTCY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

DEBTORS' DISCHARGES REFUSED.

Re Wong San-po and Cheung Kung-pat, trading as Lai Fung and Wing Shing Lung, *ex parte* Wong Cheung-oi, creditor.

This was an application for the discharge of the debtors.

Mr. F. X. d'Almada e Castro appeared for debtor Cheung Kung-pat; Mr. C. F. Dixon (of Mr. John Hastings' office) for Wong San-po; and Mr. R. A. Harding for Ma Fat-ting.

His Lordship (to Mr. Harding)—What is your status?

Mr. Wakeman—His client has admitted himself a partner, my Lord.

His Lordship—The same man as in the Lai Hing Bank case?

Mr. Harding—Yes.

Mr. Wakeman read his report upon the debtors' application for discharge. Therein it was stated that the books of the firm for last year were either wilfully or inadvertently lost; the bankrupts carried on trade by means of fictitious capital inasmuch as they were insolvent.

when they carried on business. They also purchased two houses and continued to trade after becoming insolvent, and brought about the bankruptcy by rash speculation. In the Official Receiver's opinion it was impossible to grant their discharge.

Mr. Almada said that Cheung Kung-pai, although one of the debtors, was simply a dormant partner in the firm. If his Lordship would refer to the notes of this debtor's public examination he would see that the debtor never at any time took an active part in the firm's business. That would be corroborated by Wong Sau-po, the managing partner. Mr. Almada did not ask his Lordship to grant immediate discharge, but to suspend the order for such time as he thought fit.

Mr. Dixon said it was somewhat difficult for him to criticise the report of the Official Receiver until he had had an opportunity of seeing it. Assuming that the facts stated in the report were correct, he submitted that his Lordship had power to suspend the discharge of Wong Sau-po for a reasonable time, and asked his Lordship to grant a discharge subject to a suspension for three months. The report showed that substantial assets had been recovered, and that the amount of liabilities might be reduced by the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank reducing their claim.

His Lordship—What is the claim of that bank?

Mr. Wakeman—Over half a million dollars.

Mr. Dixon—My client is here, and is prepared to answer any questions. I understood the official receiver wished to question him.

Mr. Wakeman—I don't, my Lord. But I can ask him a few questions.

Mr. Harding said it was not denied that his client was a sleeping partner, and had nothing to do with the management of the firm.

His Lordship—He has been a partner in dozens of firms.

Mr. Harding—Yes, my Lord, but he took no active part in the firm.

Mr. Wakeman—If Mr. Dixon wishes to consider the report, I have no objection to an adjournment.

Mr. Dixon—Well, if your Lordship is not going to grant the discharge—

His Lordship—I am certainly not going to grant the discharge. No consideration will make me do that.

Mr. Dixon—I meant to say after a reasonable period.

His Lordship—What I consider a reasonable period. We will take Wong Sau-po first of all: in this case there is no doubt he is the managing partner, and certainly so far as I can understand from his own admissions and from the examination, he was managing partner at the time of the bankruptcy. It was rather a large bankruptcy, and although the claim may be reduced it is perfectly clear from the evidence that 50 per cent. cannot be paid off. I will suspend his discharge for three years. With regard to the other two, maybe they were dormant partners or maybe they were not. The third man, Ma Fat-ting, is a partner in some of the biggest firms in the Colony—the Lai Hing included—and therefore he is a business man and knows the liabilities he takes on. Both discharges will be suspended for two years.

Mr. Wakeman—Will your Lordship make any order with regard to the income of the debtors?

His Lordship—Is there any income?

Mr. Wakeman—I don't know, but one of them is living in a large house.

His Lordship—I will adjourn that point till Thursday; meanwhile your can find out.

RECEIVING ORDER GRANTED.

The Kwong Ying Loong firm *ex parte* Cheuk Chak, debtor.

This was an application for a receiving order. Mr. J. S. Harston (of Messrs. Ewens, Harston and Harding) appeared in support of the application.

His Lordship—I notice the Registrar has made an interim order. Is that so?

Mr. Harston—Yes.

His Lordship—Now I want to know where you get the authority from? What is the section?

Mr. Harston—I think it was made under Section 11. (Reads, Where the Court may, etc.)

His Lordship—The Court, I know. Is that the Registrar?

Mr. Harston—I take it that Court means Supreme Court. Previously I always made the application in chambers before Sir William Goodman, but I understand the practice has been altered.

His Lordship—Mr. Wakeman, can you tell me anything about it?

Mr. Wakeman—An interim receiving order is also made by the Registrar.

His Lordship—Can you show me any authority for it?

Mr. Harston—I am bound to admit that two years ago it was not the practice. It is a convenient practice.

His Lordship—Oh! yes. But supposing it is illegal or wrong.

Mr. Wakeman referred his Lordship to subsection 2 of section 11.

His Lordship (after referring to it)—That's all right.

Cheuk Chak said he had made inquiries as to what was due to the firm, and discovered that there was an amount of \$3,070.62 due from Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg and Co. There was a further sum of \$600, and in addition to that a sum of \$718 would become due on October 1st.

Kwong Cho-chit said the total liabilities of the firm were \$18,600. The assets would realise over \$7,000.

His Lordship granted the order, and appointed the Official Receiver trustee.

PUBLIC EXAMINATION.

Chau Dart-tong *ex parte* the creditors.

Mr. G. H. Wakeman, Official Receiver, conducted this public examination, and Messrs. F. B. Deacon (of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon) and J. S. Harston (of Messrs. Ewens, Harston and Harding) appeared on behalf of creditors.

Chau Dart-tong said he was a partner in the firm of Dart Loong and Co., which business he started on October 1st, 1899. His partner's name was Chi Yat. The capital of the firm was \$50,000; they dealt in piece goods, yarn and miscellaneous goods. Debtor was interested in the Fat Cheong Bank, of 39, Bonham Strand East, to the amount of \$10,000, which was one third of the capital. The bank was closed about March, as they could not realise further capital and there was no business. All debts, with the exception of the shareholders' were paid in full. One of the partners had the books: Debtor could not say how much money the bank had lost, as the accounts were not made up. He had a considerable amount of leasehold property, and owned Connaught House Hotel, for which he gave \$255,000 on September 1st, 1900. He now valued it at \$420,000 or \$410,000, because he formerly let it out on lease at the rate of \$1,825 per month, and the man who leased it from debtor released it to another and was getting \$2,678 for it; that included the whole premises. There were mortgages on the property. Debtor had other property at Caine Road, and a share in some property at Bonham Strand. All these properties were heavily mortgaged. During the last few years he had received several hundred thousand dollars on mortgages. He had no account, but remembered it all. As managing partner of Dart Loong and Co., he received \$50 a month for a start, and when the firm wound up he was receiving \$40, really \$450, but he gave \$50 a month to his foki. This \$450 a month was to be entered in a separate account, and to be paid off from debts collected. In the beginning he used to pay off the interest on the debts from his salary, but when the debts amounted to tens and hundreds of thousands he was unable to.

His Lordship—Did you ever do business with Port Arthur?

Debtor—No.

His Lordship—You did some business, I know; there was a long case in the Court lasting three days. Not during the war?

Debtor—No.

Examined by Mr. Deacon—He was the only one interested in Connaught House. He returned in his statement to the Official Receiver a surplus of assets over liabilities of \$33,000. He would not be sure that his assets would realise that amount. Debtor calculated the increase in the value of Connaught House from the rent collected on the premises. He did not collect a month's rent from Connaught

House after filing his petition. He did not send a cash out of the jurisdiction of the Court, only to pay debts, when he thought of going bankrupt. Debtor did not include in his statement of assets the property he had at Macao, as he had sold that property. He transferred it within a fortnight of filing his petition, handing it over to a woman to whom he owed \$1,500.

Examined by Mr. Harston—When were you last solvent?—How do I know?

You don't know?—I know that I'm not solvent now.

Were you solvent three years ago?—Yes.

How do you know?—Because I had not made up my accounts.

Why did you tell the Official Receiver, at a meeting of creditors, that you were insolvent three years ago?—I didn't understand the question, so shook my head and said yes.

You engaged during the war in blockade running?

His Lordship—He denied that to me just now. I think he must have run into Dalny.

Debtor—If you make inquiries and find that I have been so engaged, I am willing that my head should be chopped off. I don't even know the people who were engaged in it.

Have you ever heard of the Fuk Tai Wo firm?—I don't know.

Supposing your name appears in their books? I have transacted business with so many people, how can I remember them all?

At any rate you deny that you transacted business with the Fuk Tai Wo so far as blockade running is concerned, or anything else?—I have heard of the Fuk Tai Wo, and I may have had small dealings with them.

Now you shelter yourself, as you are afraid. Was your partner, Francisco Chi Yat, quite content with your management of the business?—He did not say anything to the contrary.

Didn't he start a partnership action last year get a receiver appointed and remove the whole thing from your control in the case of Dart Lee & Co.?—It was a friendly action to wind up the business.

At one time in these proceedings you refused to hand over the books to the receiver, didn't you?—No answer.

When I applied for the books you instructed your solicitor not to hand them over?—I did not know the mode of procedure, so left the matter in the hands of my solicitor.

His Lordship—Have you any more books in your house?—I have one book in a house.

His Lordship—When the examination is over I shall get the bailiff to go to your house, and if you don't deliver over everything he will report to me and you will be brought up tomorrow for contempt. Do you understand?

Debtor—Yes.

His Lordship adjourned the case *sine die* and ordered the bailiff to accompany debtor to the house where the books were said to be, and search for them. Debtor was further ordered to supply the Official Receiver with further particulars.

CANTON.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

June 23rd.

ANOTHER PIRATE CAUGHT AT MACAO.

Ng Ah-loi, a notorious pirate for whose capture, dead or alive, a big reward has been going a-begging for some time, has at last been caught in Macao, by Capt Leong of the Chinese Army. He will be extradited to Canton shortly, to stand his (probably very summary) trial.

A FIGHT WITH ROBBERS.

Last night an exciting bout with robbers was witnessed in Honam, just at the rear of Messrs Butterfield and Swire's godowns. An armed gang were carrying away their loot which comprised several head of cattle, when the alarm was given by the beating of gongs, and the neighbours and "braves" turned out. A fierce fight ensued and numerous shots were exchanged. One robber was killed and several wounded. No arrests have been made so far. It is believed that this gang is a well organised one and that it is the same as that which has been terrorising residents in the suburbs during the last few months.

GOING NEARER THE THRONE.

The ex-Hoppo of Canton leaves here to-day for Peking. H. E. will be entertained at a banquet in the Manchu Guild.

CHECK ON CHAIR COOLIES.

The police department here has decided to number all the chairs plainly so as to prevent petty thieving. The coolies frequently carry away such articles as fans and umbrellas.

OPIUM DENS.

Opium dens are now required to give to the police a list of the fukis employed, and no other person is allowed to pass the night in the house under penalty of severe punishment.

THE HANG-FIRE RAILWAY.

JUSTIFYING ITS NICKNAME.

The Canton-Hankow Railway continues to be known as the Hang-fire Railway, notwithstanding the air of definite progress afforded by the formal entrance into possession by the President and Vice-President, which event took place on June 23rd. Those officials took delivery on that day of the railway dossier, all the plans and documents being deposited in the confiscated building formerly tenanted by Chan Tung-sang. This, we understand, is now the railway company's headquarters, or rather, the office of the men who have been thrust into representative positions.

As real representatives it appears they are not yet recognised. Numerous shareholders are only expressing dissatisfaction with the President and with the Directors who support him. They demand the meeting promised by Peking, so that they may vote for their own representatives. They have not sent another memorial to Peking, but they are preparing a monster petition, to which it is claimed they will get the signatures of an overwhelming majority of shareholders.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE FUTURE OF WEIHAIWEI.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—Rumours concerning the future of Weihaiwei have been in circulation for some time, and latterly even details purporting to be the terms on which H. M. Government is prepared to hand over the Territory have been published.

The rumours are apparently from Chinese sources and have generally appeared first in the native press. It would appear that they obtain considerable credence with foreigners, and this, too, in spite of official statements to the contrary.

Mr. Runciman, replying on behalf of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to a question in the House of Commons, said, "It is not considered that the transfer of the Russian lease of Port Arthur to Japan has made any change in the present status of Weihaiwei, which is leased to His Majesty's Government, and no action is at present contemplated with regard to the lease."—*The Times*, Feb. 22, 1906.

To ordinary people accustomed to plain English this public declaration of the Government's position in regard to the question would seem to indicate that Great Britain intends to retain possession of Weihaiwei till the present lease terminates, i.e., for seventeen years—if not longer.

His Honour the Commissioner of Weihaiwei and others in a position to know the real facts have also been approached on the subject, and the writer has received the Commissioner's permission to state positively that the question of the rendition of Weihaiwei to China has not arisen, and that statements on the point, which have been so persistent of late in the press, are entirely unfounded.

His Honour the Commissioner recently went, via Tsingtau, to the provincial capital. According to the reports published in the European press, from Tientsin to Hongkong, there was a two-fold object in this journey—(1) to arrange for the rendition of Weihaiwei, (2) to conclude negotiations about an important railway concession. His Honour authorises me to state that both these reports are absolutely untrue, and that he undertook the journey merely in

order to pay friendly visits to the Governor of Tsingtau and to the Governor of Shantung, the latter of whom visited the Commissioner at Weihaiwei last summer.

It is satisfactory to be able to contradict so emphatically the extraordinary and damaging reports that have been current regarding the political future of England's newest Eastern possession.—Yours truly,

HERBERT L. BEER.

Weihaiwei School, June 19, 1906.

ARTS AND CRAFTS EXHIBITION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—Section 2. Paintings, drawings, etc. Water colours were omitted in error from Section 2, of which they form Class 1.—Your obedient servant,

JOHN MARCHANT,

Honorary Secretary,
Arts and Crafts Exhibition.

Hongkong, 27th June, 1906.

HONGKONG'S TUMBLEDOWN HOUSES.

ANOTHER COLLAPSE.

The expected has happened in the vicinity of the recent house collapse in Queen's Road West. Another house has fallen in. It will be remembered that the three houses which collapsed were part of a tenement situated at the corner of Eastern Street and Queen's Road West and were numbered 226, 228 and 23. It was feared then that the adjacent houses would share the same fate, and the people were accordingly cleared from the premises and the party wall supported by woodwork.

About 6.45 p.m. on June 24th there was a loud report at 232, followed a few seconds later by a complete collapse, similar to what had taken place in the case of the others. The roof fell in and crashed through the other floors, the debris falling on the shop below which had not been cleared of its furniture. The party wall fell outwards, carrying with it the shoring that had been put by the Public Works Department. As in the previous case, the kitchen and verandahs were left standing. Naturally the event caused some excitement in the neighbourhood, but the police had no difficulty in keeping the thoroughfare clear. It is understood that the other houses in the tenement will be pulled down.

EDUCATION IN HONGKONG.

The report of the Inspector of Schools for 1905 was laid before the Legislative Council last week. It states that excluding \$200 paid by Mr. Arculli towards the cost of the Indian school, the revenue collected amounted to \$9,783.50. It has been increased from \$922 in 1901, or by more than ten-fold. The expenditure on education, including Queen's College, for the year was \$158,677.58, being 2.28 per cent of the total expenditure of the Colony. The estimated expenditure was \$189,335, of which \$30,657.42 were not spent.

The number of schools (Government and grant) was 83, an increase of 2 over last year's return. The average attendance was 5,323, as against 4,970. The proportion of pupils in the Upper Grade Schools to those in Lower Grade Schools is as 3,146 to 2,177. The Chinese side of the Belilos Public School has for the purposes of this calculation been treated as an upper grade school. Upper Grade Schools are defined in the Grant Code as those with a staff competent to give instruction in all the subjects of Standard VII. The great majority of them are English or Anglo-Chinese schools.

The steady increase in the numbers of pupils studying English is maintained. The corresponding decrease in vernacular education has been checked. This is highly satisfactory when the improvement in the standard of the vernacular schools is considered. It seems to show that the improvement in them has the approval of parents. This view is confirmed by the fluctuation in the numbers of the individual schools, as illustrated by the following figures. Nine vernacular schools obtained a grant of \$7

or more in both 1904 and 1905. The sum of the average attendances in these good schools increased from 405 to 451, and the average is now 50 for each school. Seven schools obtained a grant of only \$5 in both 1904 and 1905. The average attendance in them decreased from 161 to 151, and is now 21.6.

The figures for the private schools were taken in a more systematic way than has hitherto been done; still they are but an approximation. The English and Anglo-Chinese private schools do not include 36 night schools, with a maximum monthly enrolment of 635. Of the 3,047 children in private vernacular schools, 500, or one in six, are being taught by the new method; and the rest receive the time-honoured classical education. The proportion of girls to boys in the schools was as 1,922 to 3,411, a slight increase as compared with last year. Of the 2,146 pupils in vernacular schools, 1,292 or 60 per cent. are girls.

The statistics given shew an increase of 7% in the total number of pupils in Government and grant schools; and the critical portion of this report will shew that the standard of education has been maintained, possibly somewhat improved, in the English and Anglo-Chinese schools, and has certainly been improved in the vernacular schools. The last feature is satisfactory for general reasons, and particularly because Chinese female education is almost entirely limited to education in the vernacular tongue.

The total number of pupils in the Government schools is 782; and net cost to Government per caput is \$46.17. The corresponding figure for last year is \$41.22. The increase is mainly due to heavy initial and non-recurrent expenditure on the Victoria School.

Details of the work in the various schools are given.

EMPRESS-DOWAGER'S RESCRIPT.

MIXED SENTIMENTS.

A Peking telegram to the *Asahi* states that a "most touching" Imperial Rescript has been issued in compliance with the wishes of the Empress-Dowager. The Rescript is to the following effect:—

"The Empire has passed through eventful days of late. The mass of the people are experiencing great difficulties on account of the heavy financial demands made upon them by the Government for the payment of foreign indemnities and the expenses for carrying out administrative reforms. Natural calamities have descended on the various provinces which have intensified the hardships of the people. The administrative reforms just embarked upon, however, must not be abandoned, and the money required for the purpose must be levied upon the people. Under the circumstances, the people should endure their hardships with patience for the sake of their country, and in view of the sacrifices of the people the officials must be careful not to waste the Government funds. The disturbances in the Yangtse Valley, which are fomented from time to time, damage the interests of well-disposed people, and the authorities should suppress the insurgents with great determination."

CHINO-AMERICAN TRADE.

The following tables from the journal of the American Asiatic Association show the comparative values in gold dollars of the principal staples exported from America to China and Hongkong for the nine months ending the 31st of March, 1905, and 1906.

To China:	Cotton cloths.	Mineral oils.	Wheat flour.
1905	18,022,471	6,298,950	203,678
1906	23,637,377	3,011,984	374,532

To Hongkong:—			
1905	58,050	1,355,226	3,483,104
1906	33,029	391,837	2,829,546

The following table shows the comparative value in gold dollars of the imports of tea and silk into the U.S. for the nine months ending the 31st of March, 1904, 1905, and 1906:—

	1904.	1905.	1906.
Tea	16,621,484	14,754,078	13,068,777
Raw silk	34,392,242	46,280,796	42,103,282

CHINESE PENAL CODE.

AND CHINESE PRACTICE.

One of the most important of the many important changes now being introduced into China is the re-modelling of the penal code upon which His Excellency Wu Ting-fang and some others are engaged, says Professor Giles. It is quite plain that if China is ever to secure the abolition of extra-territoriality it will only be after she has convinced the foreign Powers that she has a code comparable with those of the West and a judiciary above suspicion of dishonesty in its administration. That this will take time is certain. That the first step towards it is that now being taken is no less sure. There are many things in Chinese law which in theory appeal to the judicial mind as being almost all that might be desired, but in practice have much to be condemned. Even in the West the most perfect paper schemes sometimes fail when put to the test, and as China has been decadent for long, it is not to be wondered at that her penal practice is very different from her penal code.

For the beginning of her judicial system we should have to go back to the days of the Chows, when the Greeks were still round Troy, or Saul was King of Israel. There was certainly an elaborate codification accomplished in the Han Dynasty (B.C. 200 to A.D. 200) by Hsiao Ho, when no fewer than 359 distinct laws were placed in the statute book, with endless additional clauses and quoted precedents. These in the case of capital punishment alone ran to 409 of the first and 13,472 of the latter. Hsiao Ho's monumental work has served as a model for all the codes of the various dynasties since his time.

The code at present existing is based largely upon that of the Ming, and is divided into seven sections relating to methods of punishment, officials and their responsibilities, fiscal and family laws, religious, ceremonial and sumptuary law, laws relating to military organisation and frontier defence, criminal laws and laws relating to public works.

Strictly legal punishments are flogging with the bamboo, imprisonment or banishment, and death by strangulation or decapitation. The legal instruments are the bamboo, the cangue, the iron chain, the wooden manacles, and fetters of iron. There are permitted, however, two others at the discretion and on the responsibility of the magistrate—the finger-squeezer, and ankle-squeezer. These with the bamboo are the "three wooden instruments" so terribly known to the native delinquent. Mr. Giles, who seems to have written prior to the recent decree "abolishing" torture, declares that "torture, though not unknown in China, exists there practically in name only."

The Chinese recognise ten "heinous crimes": rebellion, destruction of imperial tombs, treachery to the State, parricide, triple murder in one family, sacrilege, filial impiety, family discord, official insubordination, and incest. No mandarin, it would appear, ever attempts to master the vast agglomeration of statutes in the present code. He relies on the knowledge of a "law expert", much as the magistrate in Pickwick did upon his clerk.

The section on fiscal and family law contains many interesting enactments. If a man adopts a son he must be a boy bearing the same surname. A son may not set up an establishment apart from that of his father. Thus the family remains as the national unit. A man may have any reasonable number of concubines but only one wife.

Capital punishment is permitted in two forms—strangulation and decapitation. Recently it has been rumoured that in the new code the latter is to be abolished. [It was.] The natives regard the loss of the head as being a far greater punishment than the mere loss of life, since in such cases the disembodied spirit must perforce present itself in the nether world in the mutilated form. There remain a very considerable number of capital offences in Chinese law, such for example as the following:—High treason, parricide, and the murder of a master by a slave, which are theoretically punishable by "lingchi," the frequency of which Mr. Giles vigorously denies. Then follow others for which strangulation

is the penalty—the theft of more than Tls. 120, robbery, kidnapping by violence, opening a coffin, homicide, attempted murder, certain medical errors resulting in death, causing to commit suicide, wounding a government officer, striking one's master (in case of a slave), striking a parent (decapitation), and so on. It is evident that there is room here for reform. The Chinese laws against bribery are stringently severe. Popular opinion would have it that the "itching palm" is to be found whenever and where there is a yamen, and that the very rare exceptions merely prove the rule. But on paper, at any rate, it is a highly dangerous thing to accept a bribe in China; the mere acceptance of eighty taels for an unlawful, or of a hundred and twenty for a lawful object, renders the peccant official liable to death by strangulation. But this serves only to show how wide is the difference between what ought to be and what is. The main reason why Europeans, British in particular, are loth to go law is the question of expense. There is in China another in addition. Litigation is actually discouraged to this extent that any person filing a false charge is punished more heavily than the accused would have been had he been guilty. Even if the charge is false in degree only, there is a proportionate penalty, while authors of anonymous charges (true or false) render themselves liable to strangulation. One of the shortcomings of the present Chinese position is the lack of recognised means for the ready making and promulgation of new laws. This will be a matter which must come up for serious consideration in the near future, since the admission of China into the comity of nations will impose upon her the duty of keeping up to date in law as in other things.—*Straits Times*.

JAPANESE FINANCES.

The sixth financial and economic annual of Japan (1906) published by the Department of Finance, reached us two days ago. It contains, as usual, matter for many days' digestion. To glance over the ten coloured plates of diagrams is sufficient to gain a vivid impression of the growth of Japanese trade, and to whet the appetite for the arrays of figures and excellently written notes that follow in nearly three hundred pages.

In ten years ordinary revenue and expenditure have risen from 100 million yen (each) to 400 million yen and 350 million yen respectively. The taxation per capita in the same decade has risen from less than two yen over five yen, including extraordinary and special taxes. Ordinary taxation per head stands at three yen. The national debt in 1896 was under 400 million yen (less than ten yen per capita); in 1906 it is nearly 1,900 millions, or nearly forty yen per capita. The war was, of course, responsible for practically two-thirds of the debt. The production of rice, silk, yarn, copper, iron, coal, and petroleum all show steady increase; and in ten years the value of imports grew from 175 million yen to nearly 500 million yen. Bank deposits nearly doubled themselves in half the decade, the augmentation of savings being strikingly apparent in the diagrams from which these statements are made. The prices of the principal bonds and shares all show a decided upward tendency. Traffic mileage of railways just doubled itself in the decade, while their earnings were more than trebled in the same period. Steam tonnage was trebled.

The budget for the financial year 1906-7 shows an increase in ordinary revenue of Yen 21,460,000, the gross increase of taxation being Yen 35,600,000. Ordinary expenditure increased by Yen 161,300,000. Of a total estimated expenditure of 494 million yen, only 241 millions is normal, the rest being due to the war.

The much abused Tobacco Monopoly seems to have started well. The manufacture of cigarettes started in July 1904, and of cut tobacco in April 1905, with such good results that the net profit exceeded the estimated amount by seven million yen in the first year and by twelve hundred thousand yen in the second. We hear, however, what is not stated in this book, that the quality of the cigarettes has somewhat deteriorated. Other monopolies are salt and camphor, the latter being necessary because the increasing free output in Japan was affecting the Formosan business. Many of the other notes have already had attention in

our columns. It is stated that since 1904-5 the Government has obtained remarkably satisfactory results from its systematic encouragement of live stock breeding. Pearling enterprises are lately making good progress. There are at present 3,164 fishery associations and 211 marine products associations, encouraged by an Imperial Fisheries Institute. The number of industrial companies registered is 2,384, with capital of about two hundred millions. At the beginning of the decade it was only 838. The export trade to China has grown in ten years from a total value of nine million yen to nearly ninety-nine millions. In the case of Hongkong the increase was from eighteen to twenty millions only, though the value climbed to nearly forty-two millions in 1901. Imports from China rose from twenty-three millions in 1895 to fifty-three millions in 1905, the figures (in round numbers) for Hongkong being eight and eleven millions respectively. The volume of foreign trade, beginning in 1868, was doubled in 1878; again in 1888, 1895, and 1902; "if the same rate is maintained hereafter, the volume of trade will reach Yen 1,060,000,000 (£108,606,557) in 1909". Much is hoped in Japan from the Panama canal opening, when it comes and also from the railway exploitation of China. Dealing with last year, the report says, "The export trade of every description, excepting that which depends upon climatic conditions continued its steady development in 1905. In spite of the absence of no small number of able-bodied men at the front, and in spite of the fact that the people had to furnish supplies for an immense army in over-sea lands, the country was able to send an increased quantity of manufactured goods to foreign markets, and further was in a position, while paying extraordinary war taxes, to make increased purchases abroad". The adaptability of the people to circumstances is shown by the fact that the war demands instead of making incursions upon their savings, actually increased them, having, it is explained, "encouraged the practice of economy." It was as if a man whose income had been reduced ten per cent, met the change by reducing his living expenses fifteen or twenty per cent. Not the least interesting feature of the book is a new one, a section devoted to the reorganisation of Korean finances. Consideration of this department is deferred for later opportunity.

DASTARDLY AFFAIR IN HONGKONG.

LADY DANGEROUSLY WOUNDED BY ROBBERS.

An outrage, unfortunately attended with grave injury to the person, was perpetrated at Leighton Hill Road on the 23rd June. Mrs. Aoki, a Japanese lady, wife of Captain Aoki, superintendent for the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's Hongkong line of steamers was attacked at her residence, 4, Leighton Hill Road, by some robbers who had entered the house while she was the only occupant and stabbed with knives. Injuries were inflicted which render her condition very grave.

The circumstances are as follows. Captain Aoki had left the house at his usual hour in the morning, the Chinese servant had gone to market, and the maids, probably advised by someone who knew the movements of the household, took advantage of the absence of the others and made their raid on the house. Not unlikely Mrs. Aoki, hearing unusual sounds below, went downstairs to investigate, and there she came upon the robbers, who instead of taking to flight, turned upon her. When the boy returned he was horrified to find Mrs. Aoki lying on the kitchen floor in a pool of blood. She asked him to send for a doctor and her husband. He did so, and later the police were apprised of the occurrence, and when they arrived they had the unfortunate lady, who was suffering from knife wounds in the abdomen, arms and ears, removed to the Government Civil Hospital.

A knife was found by the police in the kitchen and not far from it was a gag which had not been used but which showed that the robbers were prepared for opposition. Undoubtedly the lady must have offered stout resistance, and though she screamed for help,

apparently none of the neighbours thought the occasion called for their interference. It is to be hoped the brutal assailants will soon be discovered and brought to justice. Happily Mrs. Aoki is as well as can be expected.

JAPAN'S FOREIGN TRADE.

OUTLOOK FOR THE YEAR.

With the restoration of peace the foreign trade of Japan is apparently recovering its normal condition. That is to say, the returns for the first five months of the year show that the import trade, which exhibited great expansion during the war, is falling off, while exports are showing a remarkable increase. Despite this, equilibrium between exports and imports has hardly been restored, the excess of imports over exports during the five months of the year amounting to some 43 million yen. This year's export trade, compared with last year's, is as follows:—

	1906. yen.	1905. yen.	Increase. yen.
January ...	24,985,000	23,766,000	12,216,000
February ...	26,487,000	24,631,000	1,855,000
March ...	35,485,000	23,632,000	11,853,000
April ...	28,810,000	24,402,000	4,408,000
May ...	30,671,000	22,954,000	7,716,000

Total ... 146,437,000 119,386,860 27,051,000

These figures are given according to the vernacular statement, but as is frequently the case with Japanese figures the total and the various items do not agree. As will be seen from the above, the exports show an increase in all months, the total increase over the corresponding period of last year amounting to 27 million yen. Below are given the figures for the import trade.

	1906. Yen.	1905. Yen.	Decrease. Yen.
January ...	34,223,000	38,261,000	4,038,000
February ...	32,079,000	41,023,000	7,944,000
March ...	42,741,000	52,365,000	9,614,000
April ...	43,727,000	50,453,000	7,725,000
May ...	37,803,000	57,133,000	19,330,000

Total ... 189,575,000 238,228,000 48,652,000

The decrease of the imports during the five months, as shown above, amounted to 48 million yen which, in the opinion of the *Nichi-Nichi*, is not at all surprising considering the cessation of the importation of a large amount of military supplies which were required during the war. The principal increase is noticeable in the following articles of export:—

	1906. yen.	1905. yen.	Increase. yen.
Habutai ...	12,472,000	11,552,000	919,000
Cotton yarn ...	4,374,000	3,107,000	1,267,000
Porcelain ...	2,854,000	1,804,000	1,049,000
Raw silk ...	31,685,000	25,186,000	6,398,000
Copper ...	9,013,000	5,207,000	3,805,000

The trade in the articles above mentioned was somewhat affected by the war and therefore more or less increase with the return of peace can hardly be regarded as remarkable progress. To what extent the various articles of import have suffered may be seen from the following figures:—

	1906. yen.	1905. yen.	Decrease. yen.
Raw cotton ...	50,136,000	58,841,000	8,704,000
Iron and steel ...	5,500,000	6,973,000	1,472,000
Machinery ...	7,751,000	10,257,000	2,506,000
Locomotives, carriages, &c.	478,000	2,084,000	1,606,000

Steamers ... 1,134,000 4,073,000 2,939,000
Rice ... 17,434,000 35,205,000 17,770,000
Kerosene ... 5,460,000 6,820,000 1,359,000
Leather ... 1,227,000 6,513,000 5,285,000
The importation of most of these articles has fallen off owing to the cessation of the war, while the decrease in rice is due to the large import made last year in consequence of the failure of the rice crop.—*Chronicle*.

The *Nanfang* says the Imperial Government has been telegraphically informed by Viceroy Hsi Liang of Szechuen and the Imperial Resident Yu Tai of Tibet that the Szechuen Government has recently coined \$500,000 for use in Tibet to displace the Indian rupee hitherto in use there. These dollars are stamped with the picture of H. I. M. Kuang Hsi.

REVIEW.

Chinese Art, by STEPHEN W. BUSHELL, C.M.G., B.Sc., M.D. London: Wyman & Sons, Ltd.

This volume, issued under the auspices of the Board of Education, South Kensington, Victoria and Albert Museum, which is the second of a series, deals with a subject of perennial interest to dwellers in the Far East. Dr. Bushell, who was for many years Physician to His Britannic Majesty's Legation at Peking, enjoyed exceptional opportunities not only for collecting Chinese works of art but also of studying all branches of Chinese art. That he did so to good purpose the present handbook on the subject sufficiently proves. Very properly Dr. Bushell gives pottery first place in his review, and devotes the main portion of his space to this fascinating subject. Like several other authorities he agrees that porcelain was invented in China, and quotes the adoption of its description as "China" as indubitable proof of the assumption. It is at least certain that this class of pottery was produced in the Central Kingdom during the Han dynasty, more than two centuries before the birth of Christ.

Dr. Bushell gives a succinct and interesting review of the development of the ceramic industry in China from its origin and rise to the culminating epoch of the art, as he fitly terms it, in the Kang Hsi period, 1662-1722, and the reader is able to follow, with satisfaction this little history, instead of having to grope (as in some works on the subject), among dates and periods and Chinese characters, for the facts they require. The illustrations, too, are profuse and well arranged. There are no less than 135 of these, and 110 marks and seals are given in addition. From these, which are fully and accurately described, a very good idea of Chinese pottery can be obtained. The author also goes into interesting details to show how the various styles, colours, and effects were secured. That the Chinese achieved such admirable results during the Sung and Ming dynasties was undoubtedly due to the personal interest taken in ceramics by several of the Emperors, more especially Hung Wu, the first of the Ming sovereigns, and Kang Hsi, under whom, as before noted the art reached its zenith. It is to be regretted that more intelligent encouragement to further development has not been afforded to the industry at King-te-chen by the degenerate successors of the great Kang Hsi. The wonderful colours and effects in blue and white achieved in that period, of which the celebrated hawthorn ginger jar in the Louis Huth collection, recently sold for £5,900, is an example, cannot be rivalled or even repeated in these days, and many other ancient triumphs of the art are out of the reach of the modern workman at the Imperial Potteries. The best efforts at King-te-chen are apparently now directed to reproductions of old patterns; there is neither originality nor improvement in any branch of the art.

The chapter on glass is necessarily brief but is very interesting. Dr. Bushell thinks, with reason, that the production of small objects of art in this material was originally introduced into China from Persia. It seems that in modern times the great centre for the manufacture of glass is Po-shan, in Shantung province, where the glass is run into rods, and is sent to Peking, where it is worked up into snuff bottles and other small articles. A number of illustrations shows into what various and elaborate designs this material can be worked by laborious patience. Perhaps, however, this fact is even more signally demonstrated in the wonderful carvings in crystal and jade turned out by the Chinese, some of which could only be accomplished by exhaustless patience and care.

From glass ware Dr. Bushell conducts his reader to the enamelling art, and, dealing first with cloisonné, proceeds to describe the process as practised in China. The Chinese do not claim the independent invention of this art, and it is fairly evident that it was introduced through Arabs from Turkey. The Chinese cloisonné is, in our opinion, inferior to that of Japan, but some of the Ming products are very fine. Proof of this is afforded by the illustrations in the present work. The painted enamels of Canton are well known, but the work

now produced is very inferior, and fine specimens of the good ware of the time of Kien-lung are rare.

The chapter on jewellery is brief, and will not appeal much to the Western reader, who will not find much to admire in Chinese methods in this department, Celestial taste in the arrangement of jewels being radically opposed to our ideas of what is tasteful or elegant.

To this succeeds a notice of Chinese textiles, embroidery and carpets. To the excellence and finish of Chinese embroideries most of our readers will cheerfully bear witness, and of the high antiquity of this art in the Central Kingdom there can be no doubt. China was the first country to weave its silken webs into patterns, and for ages its development steadily progressed in excellence of finish and richness of design. Dr. Bushell tells us that a Chinese ceramic author estimates that no less than two-thirds of the designs during the Ming dynasty were taken from ancient brocades or embroidered silks, the remaining third being either derived from native or copied from old bronzes. European designers are perhaps more indebted to China than they are aware, for wall hangings of paper were imported from China as early as the middle of the sixteenth century by Spanish and Dutch merchants and found their way to Great Britain before the end of the following century.

The final chapter is devoted to the pictorial art. In China, as elsewhere, Dr. Bushell remarks, painting has passed through a prolonged period of historical evolution. Its development has been mainly indigenous, although not without an occasional stimulus from the West. Of these alien influences that of the Buddhist faith has been the most important and enduring, others being for the most part of a transient nature. In the subtlety of their colours, and the lack of knowledge of perspective, the Chinese masters were much akin to the Japanese school. As Dr. Bushell truly remarks, the Chinese painters are first of all draughtsmen and calligraphists. Into his criticism of Chinese painting, which is of considerable length, we are unable, however, to follow. That the Chinese school has its merits, in colouring, in poetic feeling, and in the successful depicting of Nature none who have paid any attention to the subject can deny, but there is, to the Western mind, much that is cramped and stilted in the style, whilst in representation of animal life there is often a touch of the grotesque. The Chinese pictorial art is, however, well worth study, and the interest grows with the application.

The volume is a most useful one, of a handy size, and well deserves a place in the growing literature on China.

FOREIGN MASTERS AND JAPANESE SHIPS.

ACTION OF THE N.Y.K.

The foreign captains in the service of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha are being gradually dispensed with, says the *Japan Chronicle* of June 16th. A vernacular contemporary observes that immediately peace was restored, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha appointed Captain Ono to the command of a steamer on the Seattle line, and now the *Aki-maru* and the *Sado-maru* are also under command of Japanese captains—the former by Captain Yagi and the latter by Captain Kato. The steamers on the European and Australian lines are still commanded by foreigners, owing to the inexperience of Japanese captains in dealing with foreign passengers and their want of the knowledge of foreign languages. Moreover, little confidence is as yet placed in Japanese captains by foreign insurance offices. A proposal is on foot, however, to appoint Japanese captains to the command of steamers on the European line. The *Iyo-maru* made her last voyage under Captain Mie, a Japanese, as an experiment in this direction.

The municipality of Kagoshima, Japan, gave the British naval visitors a most elaborate reception. In thanking the hosts, Admiral Moore, with pleasant sarcasm, stated that a British squadron had a very warm reception at Kagoshima 45 years ago.

COMMERCIAL.

SILK.

Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Sons' Silk Circular, dated Shanghai, June 16th, 1906, states—The Home Markets are firm, Gold Kiling is quoted in London at 12/10½, and in Lyons at Fcs. 36. Raw Silk.—The Taitlee Market opened at the commencement of the month with sales of Double Silver Elephant at Tls. 450, and Mountain 4 at Tls. 550. On the basis of these prices Gold Kiling would be Tls. 535, but so far no sales of this Chop have been made. Altogether some 1,300 bales have been settled, and at the close, prices show slight advance. Green Kaihings have been taken to the extent of some 350 bales; prices opened at Tls. 540 for Woman Loom 1, further sales of this Chop have been made, at an advance of Tls. 20 per picul. Chincams have found favour with buyers at Tls. 517½ for Fighting Cock 1, and Tls. 537½ for Red Tiger Extra Best, about 220 bales changing hands. Yellow Silk.—No business in New Silk has so far been done, and latest advices from the country report that high prices are being paid by Native merchants. Hand Filatures.—About 700 bales of New Silk have been bought for the Continent, prices opening on the basis of Tls. 597½ for Small Buffalo 1, ordinary reel. American buyers do not seem willing to operate at present, and with the exception of 50 B Small Buffalo 1 grant at Tls. 622½, no business has been done for their market. Steam Filatures.—One or two sales are recorded in Fine sizes for Europe. Waste Silk.—There are no stocks here, and the market for New Seasons Wastes has not been opened.

KOBE MARKET REPORT.

The Kobe Market Report, published under the direction of the Hiogo and Osaka General Chamber of Commerce, and dated (Kobe) Hiogo, 15th June, 1906, has the following:—

IMPORTS.

Cotton.—Indian.—Since our last report forward transactions of Indian Cotton to the extent of from five or six thousand bales are reported. The fact, however, that prices settled were much below home quotations, clearly illustrates the keen speculative inclination of sellers, who, regardless of the condition of the home market, appear to be willing to operate freely in the hope of covering their sales in anticipation of a falling market in the near future. While this state of affairs prevails, all possible chance of any legitimate business in new crop is prohibited. Spot cargo is being placed on a small scale, although at low prices. This is no doubt due to the extremely heavy stocks in the hands of mills as well as importers, it being estimated that as much as 220,000 bales are available on the market. In consequence, mills are withholding from purchases, their own supplies being sufficient to last them for the next two or three months. The market on the whole may be considered as extremely dull and quiet. Quotations are:—Broach, (best), Yen 29.50; Akola, Khanguam, Yen 23.00. American. A few transactions are reported in "forward." Spot cargo has been moving on a small scale in the neighbourhood of Yen 32.50 to Yen 32.75. Closing quotations are Yen 32.50/32.75. Chinese.—No business in "forward" is reported since our last. "Spot" is likewise dull and quiet. Quotations are: Best quality Yen 27.75; Common quality Yen 23.00/23.50. Shirtings.—Greys.—Nothing new to report. Whites.—Quotations have somewhat improved. Cotton Goods and Fancies.—Spot market firmer, but prices still considerably below replacing cost. Worsteds and Woollens.—The market has been very favourable and only during the last fortnight have prices declined. As the home market is still advancing dealers have started to fix some orders for next spring, prices arranged being about 10 per cent. higher than for last season's. German textiles are still comparatively higher than English products, especially summer serges. Window Glass.—2,000 cases just arrived reported sold. Further arrivals prevent prices from getting near home values. Metals.—Some sales in Belgian No. 2 reported. Stocks being heavy, dealers show no desire to increase their engagements. Sugar.—Best.—No great change but prices slightly firmer in sympathy with home markets. German about Yen 14.80. Cane.—Hongkong Refined. The demand is very slack and there is no business to report. Osaka Refined.—At auction on the 5th June 5,600 bags changed hands at prices showing no variation from those paid on the previous occasion. Rice.—There is less enquiry, but holders are very firm in consequence of higher quotations from India.

EXPORTS.

Tea.—Settlements for the first half of this month amount to piculs 12,000, bringing total settlements up to piculs 28,000 against piculs 29,796 to the same date last season. Fish Oil.—1,000 cases bought for export. Copper.—For Europe a few small parcels have changed hands whilst for China a fair business has been done in Sumatran which brand is now sold out to the end of the year. Quotations are higher all round, although G.M.B. have experienced a sharp decline. Rice.—Market unchanged. Cotton Yarns.—The business for last two weeks has been very dull in both export and native market. Vegetable Wax.—No feature of interest to record. Misting.—Prices have continued firm, and are likely to remain so until it is known what the new crop of reed will be. Straw Braid.—A decidedly firmer tone has been noticeable, as it is reported that the new straw, although plentiful, is below the average in quality. This, coupled with the steady demand for certain patterns, makes dealers take up a very firm attitude. Chip Braid.—There has been more enquiry for Clips and prices are firmer.

OPIMUM.

HONGKONG, June 27th.

Quotations are:— Allowance net to 1 catty.		
Malwa New	\$950	to — per picul.
Malwa Old	\$1000	to — do.
Malwa Older	\$1050	to — do.
Malwa Very Old	\$1100	to — do.
Persian Fine Quality	\$800	to — do.
Persian Extra Fine	\$850	to — do.
Patna New	\$882½	to — per chest.
Patna Old	\$850	to — do.
Benares New	\$817½	to — do.
Benares Old	\$—	to — do.

COAL.

Messrs. Hughes and Hough, in their Coal Report of 28th June, state that 15 steamers are expected at Hongkong with a total of 67,400 tons of coal. Since June 15th, 13 steamers have arrived with a total of 54,800 tons of coal. The Report also states that the market generally remains weak. Cardiff has been quite neglected. Cardiff.....\$15.00 ex-ship, nominal. Australian.....\$9.50 to \$10.25 ex-ship, steady. Yubari Lump.....\$12.00 nominal. Miiki Lump.....\$12.00 steady. Moji Lump.....\$8.50 to \$10.00 ex-ship, steady. Moji unscreened \$7.60 to \$9.00 ex-ship. Akaike Lump.....\$9.50 to \$9.75 steady. Bengal.....\$9.00 to \$9.75 nominal.

RAW COTTON.

HONGKONG, 25th June.—A fair business has been booked. Stock about 800 bales. Bombay.....\$18.00 to \$20.00 per picul. Bengal (New), Rangoon } 21.00 to 23.50 " and Dacca } Shanghai and Japanese.....26.00 to 27.00 " Tungchow and Ningpo.....26.00 to 27.00 " Reported sales, 300 bags.

YARN.

Mr. P. Eduljee in his report, dated Hongkong, 29th June, states:—Early in the fortnight the sales noted below were reported, but since then dealers have shown little or no disposition to buy owing to the rise in exchange. The demand has, as usual, run mostly upon Nos. 10s and 20s, and confined to best spinings of favourite chops, while other tickets coming under the category of "good to best," but in less favour with the dealers, have been passed over for lower prices. Low class threads are still unsaleable. Values have been fairly maintained and in special cases show a small advance. The market closes quiet and weak.

As anticipated we have to announce the failure of another Cotton and Yarn dealer with liabilities estimated at about \$75,000. This collapse will throw back upon the market nearly 8,000 bales, chiefly Indian Yarn. Considering the present congested condition of the market, the prospects of an incessant supply of contract goods throughout the remainder of the year, and the still impending native failures, prospects ahead look truly gloomy and disquieting.

Sales of the interval aggregate 5,156 bales, arrivals amount to 10,318, unsold stock estimated at 77,000, and sold but uncleared yarn in second hands 55,000 bales.

Local Manufacture.—Quotations are maintained at \$90 for No. 10s, and \$92½ for No. 12s, at which sales of about 600 bales of the former and 200 bales of the latter count are reported.

Japanese Yarn.—There has been a little movement in these threads, also some 350 bales changing hands as under, say 50 bales Kurashiki No. 16s at \$126, 125 bales Yellow Jose No. 20s at \$129, and 150 bales Settsu No. 20s at \$139.

Raw Cotton:—Both Indian and China descriptions are barely steady with but a small off-take. Two or three parcels of superfine Bengals, aggregating 215 bales, have changed hands at from \$21 to \$23. Unsold stock 2,150 bales; 125 bales Thoongchow have been sold at \$24½. Stock 250 bales. Quotations are Indian \$20 to \$23 and China \$22½ to \$25½.

Exchange on India, after touching Rs. 156½ for T/T and Rs. 156½ for Post, has again advanced and closes firm to-day at Rs. 159, 159½, respectively. On Shanghai 72½ and on Japan 104.

The undernoted business in imported and local spinings is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended the 23rd instant, viz:—

Indian:—Market dull and depressed thanks to the action of our new ally in Manchuria, where under an ostensible "open door" policy, the place and trade are, from all accounts, as much as ever in the hands of the Japanese. Sales about 2,500 bales, prices weaker and estimated stocks 100,000 bales.

Japanese:—With a steady market about 2,200 bales are reported sold on the basis of Tls. 86 to 93 for No. 16s and Tls. 100 to 102 for No. 20s.

Local:—Continues firm, but no business from first hands is reported.

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s Report on the Shanghai Piece Goods Trade, dated Shanghai, 21st June, 1906, states:—The condition of our market during the interval has undergone very little change, the enquiry mentioned in our last continues to simmer, but is still a long way off boiling point. Importers continue to complain bitterly of the slowness in deliveries, and the steamer companies are at their wits end to know what to do with the vessels that are lying idle in port, in fact the river is in almost as congested a state as the wharves and godowns. The drought in the North is causing the greatest anxiety; the crops in the neighbourhood of Tientsin and Peking threatening to be a total failure. There has been some little enquiry for Chefoo and Kiaoohow, which has given weak second hand holders an opportunity of placing some American goods at extremely low prices, and we also understand a few hundred bales of Drills have also been bought for shipment to Vladivostok after they have been bleached and dyed. Beyond this the market, so far as we can make out, remains in a state of utter stagnation. What demand there is for Hankow is almost imperceptible and the river markets generally are upset by the floods over vast tracts of country in the central provinces. A steamer cleared for Corea yesterday and took a few of the most desirable of the favorite cloths for that market, the result of the shipments being looked for with much interest. The objections to the new currency are rapidly disappearing. Very little news has come in concerning the Manchester market which is quiet but firm. The manufacturers there are rather more reserved with their quotations, desiring, apparently, to make sure of the size of the new Cotton Crop before booking more orders. The Liverpool quotation for Mid-American was 6.10d. and for Egyptian the same as before, 10½d. Telegraphic advices concerning the New York market seem to be practically suspended. Moulden was opened to Foreign trade on the 1st June and the Japanese and Americans have established Consulates there. The Japanese have announced their intention to exclusively administer the settlement set apart for Foreign residence. As regards the current business, once more we must refer to the regular auctions. The slightly improved enquiry for Ningpo and the River markets is reflected in the prices paid at these public sales. Grey Shirtings.—Considering the firmer exchange, prices at auction show a distinct improvement on the week. The only private business reported from first hands are two small sales of 14-lbs. and 15-lbs. 39-inch makes at Tls. 4.80 and Tls. 5.00 respectively. White Shirtings.—The auction prices this morning for the whole range of qualities were steady to firm. Drills and Sheetings.—From native sources we learn that some 2,000 bales of Sheetings have been sold by second hand holders for the Chefoo and Kiaoohow markets. Prices are most irregular, the weak holders being in a state of demoralization. We learn that some 61,700 bales Drills have been bought by a foreign firm here for shipment, after bleaching and dyeing, to Vladivostok. They were No. 2 Dog Tls. 2.37, Blue Jose Tls. 3.40, and Man and Buffalo Tls. 3.50. Dyed and Fancy Goods.—These goods seem to be as difficult of private sale as the staple makes of Grey and White, and the small demand there was for indents appears to have stopped. The Fast Black Cotton—Italians at auction were at decidedly firmer prices, but Turkey Reds are still inclined

to drop. Woollens.—The weakness so long displayed at the auctions seems to have at length been arrested, and prices for all kinds this week show a firmer tendency. The improvement is not very great, but as offerings are likely to continue very moderate, owing to the high price of wool in the home markets, this should only be the commencement of the steady upward movement. Cotton Yarn.—English.—A temporary dearth of 2 and 3-fold bleached Yarns has caused a spurt in these goods, but it is not anticipated it will be of long duration.

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORT.

Per M. M. steamer Oceanien, sailed on 26th June. For Marseilles:—81 bales raw silk, 200 bales waste silk, 4 cases silk piece goods, 37 bales human hair, 14 cases feathers, 158 packages tea, 10 cases essential oil, 208 pieces tin, 6 cases ylang ylang oil, 3 cases hats, 7 cases sundries. For Lyons:—40 bales raw silk, 1 case silk piece goods. For Milan:—20 bales raw silk. For Manchester:—75 bales waste silk.

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, 29th June, 1906.—A small business has been transacted during the week, chiefly for cash, but the market continues very dull and depressed, and we have no special features of interest to report. Exchange on London T. T. 2/11, on Shanghai 72½.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai continue firm and scarce, and it is difficult to get shares to meet the small demands which are cropping up. Offers in the early part of the week at \$820 brought out a few shares, but with a further demand sellers quickly declined to part with any more except at an advance. The market closes with buyers at \$820. Nationals remain unchanged and without business, but with probable buyers at \$38.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have been again placed at \$810, and close with further buyers at that rate. Cantos have further declined to \$350 without inducing buyers to come forward. China Traders are still enquired for, but none are available. North Chinas and Yangtszes are without local business at quotations.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong's changed hands in the early part of the week at \$307½, and a demand at time of writing at \$310 fails to find sellers, the market closing firm at that rate. Chinas continue in a small demand at \$85 with small sales.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have been placed during the week at the improved rate of \$26, and shares are now wanted at \$28½. Indos remain neglected with sellers at quotation. The Report, which has just arrived from London, shows that the Company earned, after making full provision for depreciation, the sum of £27,794 odd, admitting of a dividend of 5 per cent. and carrying forward £2,452 odd. Douglas has been placed at \$41½ and close with further buyers. Shells have improved to 27/6 locally, and in London to 29s. Star Ferries remain unchanged and without business.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars are quoted at \$155, but we have no business to report. Insos remain unchanged and without business.

MINING.—With the exception of a few sales of Raubs at \$31, we have nothing to report under this heading.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Notwithstanding reports of a fair half-year's working, Hongkong and Whampoa Docks continue to rule weak, and sellers at the further reduced rate of \$154 fail to find purchasers; it is probable that an even lower rate would be accepted for cash. Kowloon Wharves have been in some demand during the week, and shares have been placed at \$102, \$103, and again at \$102, the market closing with further buyers at the lower rate. We have nothing else to report under this heading.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have ruled weak and sales have been effected at \$115 and \$114, the market closing with further sellers at the lower rate. West Point are on offer at \$52 without buyers. Hotels have fallen to \$127½ without sales. Humphreys have ruled steady, but with no business.

COTTON MILLS.—All rates from the north, with the exception of Lao Kung Mow (Tls. 70), come weaker, and we have no local business to report.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Small sales of Ices at \$240 and of Powells at \$104 is all the business we have to report under this heading. Bella, Asbestos, Dairies, and China Borneos are enquired for at quotations. We have nothing else to report. Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Alhambra	\$200	\$100
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai..	\$125	\$820, sales & buy. London, £92. 5s.
National B. of China A. Shares	25	\$38
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	12s. 6d.	\$7½, buyers
China-Borneo Co.	\$12	\$7
China Light & P. Co.	\$10	\$10
China Provident	\$10	\$9, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 50	Tls. 68
Hongkong	\$10	\$14, sellers
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 61
Lao Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 70
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 310
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$16, buyer
Docks & Wharves—		
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$102, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$154, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$61	\$18, sellers
Shanghai Dock and Eng Co., Ltd.	Tls. 100	Tls. 113
S'hai & H. Wharf	Tls. 100	Tls. 222½
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$22, sellers
G. Island Cement	\$10	\$28½, sellers
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$175, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$15, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$235
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$127½, sellers
Hongkong Ice Co.	\$25	\$240, sales & buy.
Hongkong Rope Co.	\$10	\$29, sellers
H'kong S. Waterboat	\$10	\$9½
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$850, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$85, sales & buy.
China Traders	\$25	\$98, buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$810, buyers
North China	25	Tls. 85
Union	\$100	\$810, sales & buy.
Yangtze	\$60	\$175
Land and Buildings—		
H'kong Land Invest.	\$100	\$114, sellers
Humphreys' Estate	\$10	\$114, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$38
Shanghai Land	Tls. 50	Tls. 110, buyers
West Point Building	\$50	\$53, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$450, nominal
Raubs	18/10	\$31, buyers
Philippine Co.	\$10	\$5
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$155, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$20, sellers
Steamship Companies		
China and Manila	\$25	\$20, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$41½, buyers
H. Canton & M.	\$15	\$26½, buyers
Indo-China S.N. Co.	\$10	\$77, sales & sellers
Shell Transport Co.	21	27/6, buyers
Star Ferry	\$10	\$30
Do. New	\$5	\$21
Shanghai & H. Dyeing	\$50	\$50
South China M. Post.	\$25	\$20, sellers
Steam Laundry Co.	\$5	\$6, buyers
Stores & Dispensaries.		
Campbell, M. & Co.	\$10	\$32
Powell & Co., Wm.	\$10	\$104, sales
Watkins	\$10	\$5, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$13½, sellers
United Asbestos	\$4	\$9
Do. Founders	\$10	\$160

VERNON & SMYTH Brokers

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Share Report for the week ending the 21st June, 1906, states:—During the past week a fairly large business has been done in covering, and as a result Langkats firmed very considerably for cash and June delivery, but forward sales at the equivalent rates were impossible. Owing to the issue of a notice by the Weihaiwei Gold Mining Co., that a further call of \$1 was to be made, the shares became practically unsaleable, and business is reported at \$1. Banks.—No business reported locally. Hongkong quotes \$815 buyers. The latest London quotation is 291.10/-. The T/T. rate on London is 2/11½. Fire and Marine Insurance.—No business reported. Shipping.—A fair business has been done at Tls. 57½ cash and June, and the market closes easier with sellers for all deliveries, and business has been reported at Tls. 57½ July. Shanghai Tugs.—Preference shares are still quoted at Tls. 51 and there are sellers of Ordinary shares at Tls. 61. Forward business has been done at Tls. 63 for September. Docks and Wharves.—Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co. A limited business has been done at Tls. 114 for the settlement, Tls. 114½ July, Tls. 116 Aug. closing steady at quotations. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves. Business is reported at Tls. 225, 226 cash, Tls. 226½ June, Tls. 228½ July, but the market closed with sellers below these quotations. A good number of September shares are on offer at Tls. 232½ without finding buyers. Sugars.—No business reported, but Perak Sugars have been on offer during the week at Tls. 100. Mining.—The only operation reported is a sale of Weihaiwei Golds at \$1. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment Co. Business reported at Tls. 110, the market closing with buyers at this rate. Industrial.—Ewos. Business reported at Tls. 63 cash and Tls. 70½ September. There has been a demand for Lao Kung Mows at Tls. 70 to Tls. 71, but very few shares have come out. Internationals have been dealt in at Tls. 61. Anglo-German Brewery. A transaction is reported at \$85. Mantschappij, &c., in Langkats. The market was steady during the week at Tls. 227½ June, and Tls. 232½ September, but weakened at the close and business was reported at Tls. 226 June and Tls. 231 September. We believe the weakening is due to requirements of short sellers having been satisfied. Stores and Hotels.—Hotel des Colonies. Business has been done at Tls. 16½. Centrals have been done at \$15½. Hall & Holtz. Business done at \$23. Astor House Hotel Shares, sellers at \$32. Miscellaneous.—Telephones have been placed at Tls. 62½, and Shanghai Mercury Shares at Tls. 47. Loans and Debentures.—No business has been reported, but Shanghai Land 6 per cent. debentures are obtainable at Tls. 96, and Municipal Council 6 per cent. at Tls. 97.

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 29th June.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	2/11
Bank Bills, on demand	2/11½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	2/11
ON LONDON.—	
Bank Bills at 4 months' sight	2/11½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/11½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/2½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	287½
Credits 4 months' sight	271½
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	218
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	51½
Credits, 60 days' sight	52½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	159
Bank, on demand	159½
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	159
Bank, on demand	159½
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	72½
Private, 30 days' sight	73½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	104
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	103½
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	104 p.c.p.m.
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	122½
ON HAIPHONG.—On demand	21 p.c.p.m.
ON SAIGON.—On demand	2 p.c.p.m.
ON BANGKOK.—On demand	60½
SOVEREIGN, Bank's Buying Rate	\$9.35
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine per tola	\$42.00
BAR SILVER, per tola	\$20.50

SHIPPING

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL

June—ARRIVALS.

- 24, Amigo, German str., from Haiphong.
 24, Gregory Apcar, British str., from Calcutta.
 24, Phu yen, French str., from Saigon.
 24, Shaohsing, British str., from Shanghai.
 24, Vittoria, British str., from Newcastle.
 24, Yunnan, French str., from Antwerp.
 25, Glenturret, British str., from London.
 25, Inaba Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.
 25, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
 25, Oosunien, French str., from Yokohama.
 25, Prinz Waldemar, Ger. str., from Kobe.
 25, Progress, German str., from K'ohaiwan.
 25, Telemachus, British str., from Saigon.
 25, Triumph, German str., from Haiphong.
 25, Zafiro, British str., from Manila.
 26, Changsha, British str., from Yokohama.
 26, Choyang, British str., from Shanghai.
 26, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
 26, Magallanes, Amr. str., from Manila.
 26, Strathmore, British str., from Pulo Laut.
 27, Australian, British str., from Kobe.
 27, Canton Maru, Japanese str., from Kobe.
 27, Helena, German str., from Hoihow.
 27, Kina, Danish str., from London.
 27, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 27, Tonkin, French str., from Marseilles.
 28, Arcadia, British str., from Shanghai.
 28, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
 28, Joshi Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
 28, Kinkiang, British str., from Shanghai.
 28, Kantsford, British str., from Port Kembla.
 28, Laertes, British str., from Saigon.
 28, Pakhoi, British str., from Swatow.
 28, Shohsing, British str., from Canton.
 28, Wajasa Maru, Jap. str., from Bombay.
 28, Wongkoi, German str., from Bangkok.

June—DEPARTURES.

- 25, Acilia, German str., for Hamburg.
 25, Amiral Ekman, Fr. str., for Saigon.
 25, Benlomond, British str., for London.
 25, Bourbon, French str., for Saigon.
 25, Diadem, British cruiser, for Japan.
 25, Germania, German str., for Bangkok.
 25, Hanof, French str., for Haiphong.
 25, Iltis, German gunboat, for Canton.
 25, Shinano Maru, Japanese str., for Seattle.
 25, Suisang, British str., for Calcutta.
 25, Taiwan, British str., for Saigon.
 25, Chipshing, British str., for Tientsin.
 26, Daphne, German str., for Vladivostok.
 26, Doric, British str., for San Francisco.
 26, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
 26, Jura, British str., for Java.
 26, Korat, German str., for Bangkok.
 26, Kwangtai, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 26, Oceanien, French str., for Europe.
 26, Sexta, German str., for Singapore.
 26, Shansi, British str., for Shanghai.
 26, Taming, British str., for Manila.
 26, Yangmoo, Korean str., for Kuchinotsu.
 27, Amigo, German str., for Haiphong.
 27, Athenian, British str., for Vancouver.
 27, Hansung, Korean str., for Chifoo.
 27, Inaba Maru, Japanese str., for London.
 27, Johanne, German str., for Haiphong.
 27, Maiduru Maru, Jap. str., for Auping.
 27, Nord, Swedish str., for Singapore.
 27, Onsang, British str., for Calcutta.
 27, Prinz Waldemar, Ger. str., for Australia.
 27, Progress, Ger. str., for Kwangchauwan.
 27, Rajaburi, German str., for Bangkok.
 27, Wingsang, British str., for Shanghai.
 27, Yunnan, French str., for Shanghai.
 28, Changsha, British str., for Australia.
 28, Chingtu, British str., for Kobe.
 28, Devawongse, German str., for Bangkok.
 28, Hoihow, British str., for Shanghai.
 28, Hupeh, British str., for Kobe.
 28, Karin, Swedish str., for Saigon.
 28, Kina, Danish str., for Shanghai.
 28, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Canton.
 28, Nanchang, British str., for Vladivostok.
 28, Produce, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
 28, Tonkin, French str., for Shanghai.
 28, Triumph, German str., for Haiphong.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Prinz Waldemar, from Kobe, Mr. R. K. Macnamara, Mr. Egbert, Mr. and Mrs. Goldsbrough, Miss Williamson, Mr. Williamson, Mr. and Mrs. Lazarus, Miss R. S. Wright, Messrs. A. C. Carson, J. H. Edwards, T. Kurata, O. Mitamine, C. Ueberfeld and E. Frohn.

Per Oceanien, for Hongkong from Yokohama, Mr. Takahashi, from Shanghai, Messrs. D. Lundborg and Hans. Miss Hans. Mr. Prats, Rev. Merins, Miss B. M. Gertsch, Mr. and Mrs. Bernheim, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Harding, Messrs. Grollsmann, Marine, Romano, Tassero; for Saigon from Shanghai, Mrs. Schwyer, Mr. Mrs. and Miss Azala and 2 daughters, Messrs. Pashi Michel, Paulet; for Singapore from Kobe, Mr. W. Edwards; from Shanghai, Mr. Hunt; for Bombay from Yokohama, Messrs. A. H. R. Dodel, A. H. M. Roe, A. M. Gillies; for Port Said from Kobe, Mr. Ameroussi; from Shanghai, Mr. Stamenkavitch; for Marseilles from Yokohama, Messrs. Brunschwig, Vonan Tas and Padel; from Kobe, Mr. Joly de Saily; from Shanghai, Messrs. Tron de Boohany, Hans Kock, Mr. and Mrs. Boutin, Messrs. Wolkoff, Langlois, Br-n-col, G. L. Young, Mr. and Mrs. Claes and child, Messrs. Matter, Rognon, Madgeleine, Doudunisu, Chaise, Fourteau, Rouet and Frix.

Per Seydlitz, for Hongkong from Southampton, Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Pigge; from Genoa, Messrs. C. V. Guterres, K. F. Kohler, Alfr. Blesse, J. N. Dowaldt, Jos. Reiber, Jos. Schmidt, Jac. Weyer, P. Hofer, B. T. Bertolo, Jac. Winkel, Gust. Wilohert, Carlo Girétti and Joh. Gisehect; from Singapore, Messrs. Busch and Wm. Lowe; for Shanghai from Bremen, Mrs. H. Anerbach and child, Messrs. Oscar Reiber, Ed. Starok and Conrad Fiedler; from Antwerp, Messrs. Prosper Paternot and Dehaute; from Southampton, Messrs. H. G. Bergmann, S. L. Brionell and G. B. Stormes; from Genoa, Mr. Chas. W. Burgess, General Spingerard, Consul Knipping, Mr. and Mrs. Winteler, Messrs. Rob. and Luc. Geerts, Miss Hortense Geerts, Prof. J. Muller, Messrs. Gasten Godineau, L. Tysebaert, E. Winkler and Andreani Antonio; from Naples, Mr. Jacobsen Bjene, Capt. Viktorio Carmil, Mr. Girolamo Olivi; from Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. Maibaum, Mrs. Vezard, Messrs. Findlay, Pollit, V. S. Cotton and G. S. Nuherbeger; from Singapore, Messrs. Friedr. Gerdmann, E. W. Milman, Mr. and Mrs. A. Schwarzenberg, Mr. Bert. Fisher; for Nagasaki from Colombo, Mr. Ungelbeck; from Singapore, Mr. H. L. Inohbold, Mr. S. Scharzmat and Miss Rozin Scharzmat; for Kobe from Bremen, Mr. Otto De Eries; from Genoa, Mr. Leon Carmona; from Naples, Dr. Kamon; for Yokohama from Southampton, Mr. E. W. Fisher, General Sir H. Colville; from Genoa, Mr. and Mrs. H. Fokkes, Dr. Herm. Krapf; from Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. Pistorius, Nurse Blomfield and child; from Singapore, Prof. Campbell, Mrs. N. Gasatti, Mr. Carl Buker.

Per Inaba Maru, from Yokohama for Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. Walker, Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. J. Millies and 3 children, Messrs. W. K. Cook, C. M. T. Western, Mrs. Eves, Mrs. Fearn, Messrs. G. L. Swenson, J. Isaac and R. Schwarty; for Singapore, Messrs. K. Isonaga, K. Fujii, S. Hashimoto, Mr. and Mrs. Inagaki; for Marseilles, Mrs. L. A. Marsden, Miss U. Marsden, Miss Alice Burgess, Dr. Y. Yoshida; for London, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wray and infant, Mr. A. A. Drewell, for Antwerp, Prof. Dr. K. Katayama, Mr. S. Muller.

Per Changsha, from Yokohama, Mrs. and Miss Peterson, Major Lane, Messrs. Sharp and Broughton, Dr. Alcorn.

Per Australian, from Kobe, Miss J. Macmaster, Miss M. Murray, Mrs. Foreman, Mrs. McKay, Messrs. F. W. Hall, W. Wolfbagen, R. Bewick, L. Murphy, Mr. and Mrs. Jupp and 3 children.

Per Tonkin, for Hongkong from Marseilles, Cte. de Sieyes de Veynes, Messrs. Modard and Potasch, Mr. and Mrs. Knott; from Singapore, Mr. Giovanni Garda; from Batavia, Messrs. J. H. Sotter and J. Van Den Does; from Saigon, Mr. Alexandre, Mr. and Miss Clark, Messrs. Guy de Valbreger, F. Boghano, Gade and Sakai; for Shanghai from Marseilles, Messrs. Tondon, Traptil, Plagneu, Meyer, Doyen, Hemmel, Jaumens, Joseph Frieg, E. K. Lung, Mrs. Labordery, Mr. Bon-sion; from Port Said, Mr. Aron Dinn; from Suez, Mr. Marinatas; from Colombo, Mr. Tabbeh; from Singapore, Mr. H. E. Riga, Capt. Alverson, Messrs. Matsuda, T. Saki, Morasolo, Mr. and Mrs. Hayashida, Messrs. Uehida, Mrs. H. B. Lewis; from Saigon, Messrs. Boulard and C. B. Janssens; for Kobe from Marseilles, Mr. R. Kobayashi, Mr. and Mrs. Rousselle, Messrs. Lacombe and Kanokogi; from Saigon, Mr. and Mrs. Chassin; for Yokohama from Port Said, Messrs. Totoki,

Beverlain and R. Sagrifama, from Colombo, Jogsandro Ch. Vay.

Per Arcadia, from Shanghai for Hongkong, Messrs. V. Bock, E. O. Pich, C. T. King, Major G. Patterson, Messrs. A. Fuchs, E. Mayer, R. Gordon, Mrs. Kingdon; for Colombo, Capt. J. R. Clark, Miss Gillingham; for Sydney, Mr. and Mrs. James; for Marseilles, Mrs. W. Smith; for London, Col. Serret, W. Gray; from Kobe for Hongkong, Mr. E. V. D. Parr; from Bombay, Mr. D. W. Roberts; from Yokohama for Hongkong, Mr. Marshall; for London, Dr. W. G. Brett.

Per Wakasa Maru, from Bombay for Kobe, Messrs. R. Furugori, K. Ohtani, F. S. Gomez, Mrs. A. T. Souza, Miss M. de Souza, Miss P. de Souza.

DEPARTED.

Per Nikko Maru, for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. John R. Painter and child, Messrs. F. T. Foxwell, J. E. McDonald, F. H. Van Patten, E. D. Stanley, Dr. K. Ohno, Hon. J. Sternberg, Miss A. Sternberg, Mrs. F. Bacon, Mrs. C. P. Mr. and Mrs. H. L. H. Bales, Mrs. H. F. Elwyn, Messrs. D. F. Turner, H. G. C. Mills, Ernest Whiby, Mrs. J. Sternberg, Lieut. A. Sternberg, Mr. and Mrs. R. Singleton, Master F. Singleton, Miss E. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. H. Hayashi, Messrs. M. E. F. Airey, U. Cayanan, R. C. Syyp, J. Chuidian, Mrs. Chuidian, Miss Chuidian, Miss Acosta, Mrs. Adams, Miss Leadam, Messrs. Shand Wm. Silek, Mr. J. G. Bough, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Brush, Mr. N. D. Terrel, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin and 2 children, Mrs. T. Haraguchi, Messrs. Mauna Ohtsu and C. H. Christie.

Per Seydlitz, for Shanghai, Mrs. Weinberg, Mr. and Mrs. Marques, Messrs. da Cruz Farias, Ph. Jahneke, A. M. Silva, Tommen, Mrs. and Miss Xavier, Messrs. P. Buder, Rich, Miss Sequeira; for Nagasaki, Mrs. Oyashi and Mrs. Abe; for Kobe, Mr. Asaba; for Yokohama, Messrs. F. Wilson, F. Muller, E. Appert and Mrs. Wilson.

Per Doric, for San Francisco, &c., Messrs. Otto Meister and C. V. Guterres, Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Cadwallader, Mr. L. M. Hopkins, Mr. and Master A. W. Bahr, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Garland, Judge and Mrs. J. S. Chapman, Miss M. Chapman, Miss F. Coulter, Mrs. A. B. McCutchen, Master Jack McCutchen, Miss S. Chapman, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Waldegrave, Mr. P. Got, Mr. and Mrs. A. McQuaire, Mrs. Reed, Miss M. Ashley, Mr. L. Karbolling.

Per Oceanien, for Saigon, Rev. A. Joubert, Mrs. L. Werth, Miss Anny Holder; for Singapore, Mr. H. G. Murray, Miss Hartwig, Mr. and Mrs. McComb, Mr. W. Chapman; for Colombo, Mrs. Soeurs Debat, Mr. Marseilles, Messrs. Manoel Goncalves, J. de Laborde.

Per Athenian, for Vancouver, &c., Lieut. G. K. McCallum, Messrs. G. Cunningham, Mardelli, Col. Kent, Wm. D. Hayes, Band, Mrs. and Miss H. R. Holmes, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Morse, Miss Grateford, Mr. A. L. Oka, Mr. Barnes, Dr. Perrington, Dr. Scarlett, Dr. Craeken, Mr. A. S. Wright, Miss Stipbourne, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Presley and family.

Per Inaba Maru, for London, &c., Mrs. O. Bateman, Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Johnson, Messrs. W. E. Dearling, K. Isonaga, K. Fujii, Mrs. A. Marsden, Miss U. Marsden, Miss Alice Burgess, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wray and infant, Mr. A. A. Drewell, Prof. Dr. K. Katayama, Mr. S. Hashimoto, Mr. and Mrs. Inagaki, Dr. Y. Yoshida, Mr. S. Muller.

Per Prinz Waldemar, for Australia, Mr. Charles D. Ayton and child, Br. Tobias B., Messrs. Alfred Blesse and A. C. Carson, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Chapin, Lieut. and Mrs. D. F. Craig, Messrs. A. Dowaldt, J. H. Edwards, Mr. Egbert, Mr. Johannes Giesbrecht, Mr. and Mrs. Goldsbrough, Miss B. M. Gertsch, Mr. Paul Hofer, Col. and Mrs. J. A. Hull, Mr. T. Kurata, Mr. and Mrs. Laster, Mr. A. Macdonald, Major and Mrs. L. S. McCormick, Mr. Mitamine, Mrs. John Mills and children, Rev. Jos. Reiber, Rev. Jos. Schmidt, Mr. Gust. Welohert, Rev. J. Wendel, Rev. Jas. Wray, Mr. J. Williamson, Mrs. Williamson, Mrs. S. Wright, Mr. Woodland.

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